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PALESTINIAN REJECTIONISTS ISSUE PLAN FOR UNIFIED ACTION

LD061500Y Kuwait AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM in Arabic 26 Aug 78 pp 5, 7 LD

[Text of memorandum issued by Palestinian resistance organizations that belong to the rejection front: the Arab Liberation Front, the Palestine Liberation Front, the Popular Struggle Front and the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, in response to a memorandum by Fatah movement issued "last week" on the question of Palestinian national unity]

[Text] How should we unify the means of the Palestinian revolution?

All the world revolutionary experiments have proved that unifying the means of revolution is one of the principal conditions absolutely necessary for insuring the success of any revolution. For if the means of the revolution are not unified, it would be impossible to score a decisive victory against the enemy, because the absence of such a framework would cause the revolution to suffer from peripheral contradictions between its factions and would deprive it of the ability to mobilize, organize and marshal its forces against the common adversary. The experiments of the Palestinian revolution itself have also shown the great difference between the outcome of battles which it fights united, and those which it fights divided and with its forces dispersed. But there comes the more important question, which is: How do we achieve this lofty objective?

1. All the revolutionary factions must realize the nature of the present stage, that it is a stage of natural democratic liberation and that the forces participating in the revolution are those of our people with their various classes and parties which express the thoughts, interests and ambitions of every class. Therefore, the Palestinian national front, or what is being termed "Palestinian national unity," is not a single organization but rather a general framework encompassing factions and parties representing more than one class, and having its own different ideological, organizational and political principles that make it a framework for factions and parties that have agreed to confront the common national enemy although they may disagree on several national issues. This existence of conflicts within the framework of the same revolution is natural and has been experienced by all the revolutionary movements.

2. It has been clearly and tangibly proved through the experiment of our Palestinian revolutions that have triumphed or those that are still engaged in struggle for the sake of liberation, that it is necessary to provide a large number of programs that organize all aspects of the means of the single revolution. Foremost among these is a unified political program which is the backbone and the basis of building such means. Any attempt to unify military, information, financial, security or organizational action without such a political program would be futile and would remain ink on paper. Attempts to implement it would be stillborn. The Palestinian resistance itself has seen many unsuccessful attempts at unified action--such as the experiment of the armed struggle [organization], the Central Committee, the Central Council, unified information, unified security and the national fund--which all provide substantial proof of the correctness of such a view. This is because all these formulas remained ineffective in the absence of a unified political stand.

3. The correct and only way to accomplish the task of building the means of a unified Palestinian revolution cannot be through violence and coercion but only through democratic dialog, mutual respect, resisting individualism in leading the unified action and consolidating the principle of collective and proportional equality in the legislative and executive bodies of all the factions that agree on the political program for national democratic liberation, as well as through specifying the points of agreement and considering them the common grounds of action, defining the points of disagreement on conducting a dialog on them as well as referring them to the masses and shunning party dogmatism and resisting the trend of superiority.

4. Backing the political program with an organization program, a military program and an information program; setting a detailed plan of action in all basic fields; respecting all the functions and their joint struggle to achieve the tasks agreed upon; preserving the freedom and right of every faction to struggle on its own or in cooperation with other factions on other issues, particularly on political issues on which no agreement is reached, with its own methods and means; and insuring the freedom of ideological and organizational struggle--all of which represent the basic foundation for building the edifice of Palestinian national unity.

We in the front of the Palestinian rejection forces, in light of the difficulty and gravity of the present stage and in light of our understanding of the characteristics of this stage, on the basis of the foregoing issues, and in accordance with the provisions of the Tripoli document submit to our comrades-in-arms in all the Palestinian popular organizations and to our masses the following detailed programs for the unification of our action as a Palestinian revolution:

I. The political program:

1. The PLO declares its rejection of all the resolutions that detract from our right to regain our entire Palestinian soil, including the partitioning resolution and Resolutions 242 and 338, and declares its refusal to attend the Geneva conference or any other conference held on the basis of such resolutions. It also affirms its rejection of the proposed political settlements.

2. The PLO declares its adherence to the popular armed struggle and the long term liberation war as the only way to achieve its objectives of liberation and return with all the popular and political struggle of various forms involved.

3. The PLO declares its adherence to the goal of total and complete liberation of the entire Palestinian soil and the establishment of a Palestinian democratic state and a Palestinian social democracy, as part of the united socialist democratic Arab society, over the remains of the Zionist entity and on the entire Palestinian soil. It will adhere to it as a strategic and firm goal so that the right to work and the right to a dignified life will be provided for all citizens equally with justice and brotherhood, free from all forms of religious or racial fanaticism.

4. The PLO struggles for the sake of the establishment of a liberated and armed base on any part of the Palestinian soil through the escalation of armed struggle on the Palestinian and Arab levels, with the aim of creating a radical change in the military and political balance that would enable it to achieve this interim stage.

5. The PLO shall mobilize and organize the masses of our Palestinian people in Jordan for armed struggle against the Israeli enemy and for their political and social rights in conjunction with the struggle of the Jordanian masses and their national movement, and will strive to establish a Jordanian-Palestinian front that aims at toppling the Jordanian regime and the establishment of a national democratic rule in Transjordan, a front that will serve as a support for the struggle of the Palestinian and Jordanian peoples to liberate Palestine, and which will be an expression of the common destiny of the national Palestinian-Jordanian struggle with the Arab struggle as a whole.

6. The PLO will struggle to mobilize, organize and lead the struggle of our masses inside the occupied territories in the political, military and popular fields.

7. The PLO will struggle to adhere to its armed presence in southern Lebanon and will seek to strengthen this presence with determination as an expression of the revolution's right to fight the Zionist enemy from all Arab fronts.

The PLO will also struggle to defend the gains of our masses in the Lebanese camps and to defend the revolution's right to mobilize, arm and recruit our masses in the camp and to fortify such camps against all attacks on the revolution and the masses.

8. The Palestinian revolution adheres to its natural alliance with the Lebanese nationalist and progressive forces to preserve the freedom and the legitimacy of the armed, popular, political and propaganda struggle against the Zionist enemy on the grounds that this is part of the Arab nation's struggle.

9. The PLO rejects all attempts to impose hegemony and guardianship on the Palestinian revolution by any Arab state and struggles to defend the independence of the Palestinian revolution and its right to military and political action on all fronts in order to achieve its strategic goal of total liberation and the establishment of a democratic state.

10. The PLO struggles to wrest the right of the Palestinian revolution and of all its factions to mobilize, organize and arm the masses of our Palestinian people in Syria and their right to armed struggle against the Zionist enemy from the Syrian front.

11. In affirmation of the common objectives of the Palestinian revolution action and the Arab revolution action the PLO will strive to establish a popular and an official Arab front rejecting settlements and hostile to imperialism, Zionism and reaction and determined to fight for the total liberation of Palestine.

12. The PLO defines its relations with the Arab regimes in light of the attitudes of these regimes toward a capitulatory settlement and toward world imperialism, the Zionist enemy and the Arab reactionary regimes and the forces in their orbit.

13. The PLO seeks to consolidate its alliance with the world revolution forces represented in socialist countries, the national liberation movements and the revolutionary and democratic forces in the capitalist countries.

14. The contribution of the Palestinian and Arab revolution to the world struggle is achieved primarily through engaging in direct battles against our enemies--the Zionists, the imperialists and the reactionaries. Our stands in these battles are determined in the light of our own reality and circumstances and as we see them, provided that we do not neglect dialog with our friends and allies on the international level.

II. Program for the PLO's role in developing the steadfastness and confrontation front:

1. The PLO, which has determined its political attitude by rejecting a political settlement and unified its factions on the basis of the historic Tripoli document, calls on the steadfastness and confrontation front to determine its political stand, reject political settlements of any kind, reject Resolutions 242 and 338 and refuse conciliation, negotiations and recognition of the intruding Zionist entity after it has been established as a result of As-Sadat's treasonous step, as the policy and concept of settlement will only lead to further humiliating surrender in favor of the interests of imperialism, Zionism and agent reaction.

2. The PLO struggles to lay down a charter of the steadfastness and confrontation front on the basis of rejecting settlements of all kinds and all forms.

3. The steadfastness and confrontation front struggles to confront the plans of imperialism and its ferocious assault on the Arab revolutionary forces.

4. The PLO calls on the steadfastness and confrontation front to strengthen its relations with the world revolutionary forces represented by the socialist countries, the national liberation movements and the world revolutionary and democratic movements in opposing imperialism, Zionism and reaction.

5. We call on the steadfastness and confrontation front to define its relations with the Arab states in light of its attitude toward the Egyptian regime and its actual readiness to confront the Zionist enemy and fully liberate Palestinian soil.

6. We call on the steadfastness and confrontation front to pursue the line of national unity based on economic integrity between them as part of total Arab economic integration and unity in all political and military fields.

7. We call on the steadfastness and confrontation front to do the following:

A. Realize the continuing increase in prices of Arab oil;

B. Reduce Arab oil production as a means to protect the future of our Arab masses and nation;

C. Not use the dollar in pricing Arab oil.

8. We call on the steadfastness and confrontation front to give total support in all fields to the revolution and its struggle inside the occupied territories in order to enable our people to stand fast and resist the Zionist enemy and his political, cultural and economic schemes.

9. We call on the steadfastness and confrontation front to support the Palestinian revolution and its right to mobilize its masses in Jordan militarily and politically as well as its right to proceed from Jordan in fighting the Zionist enemy, however the requirements of such fighting may be defined by the PLO.

10. We call on the steadfastness and confrontation front to support the Palestinian revolution in Lebanon and to back its right to armed and political existence in Lebanon as well as its right to mobilize its Palestinian masses and fight the Israeli enemy from Lebanon without imposing any hegemony or trusteeship on it.

11. We call on the steadfastness and confrontation front to support the Lebanese nationalist and progressive forces and to consider them the legitimate representative of the Lebanese masses and the basic guarantee for protecting the Palestinian revolution and its continued presence in Lebanon.

12. We call on the steadfastness and confrontation front to fight the fascist isolationist front in Lebanon on the grounds that it is the agent of imperialism and openly deals with the Zionist enemy in southern Lebanon, and to do so with all the resources available to it in Lebanon.

13. We call on the steadfastness and confrontation front to enable the Palestinian revolution to mobilize, organize and arm the Palestinian masses in Syria and to establish military bases from which it can launch its fighters to fight the Zionist enemy without restrictions and to insure the right of the Palestinian revolution to use its presence in Syria in supporting the struggle of its masses in the Jordanian arena.

14. We call on the steadfastness and confrontation front to unleash the potentials of the Arab masses in the various Arab countries, to promote real and actual popular democracy, to arm the masses and to establish war societies in the front states in order to insure the front's political and economic independence and enable it to confront the conspiracies and the forces of enemies and liberate all the occupied Arab territories.

15. We call on the states of the steadfastness and confrontation front to provide every support possible for the Egyptian nationalist forces so that the Egyptian people can play their Arab role, to continue to refuse any attempts to break the isolation of the Egyptian regime or restore its prestige and to reaffirm that real Arab solidarity must be based on resisting the Zionist enemy's plans and opposing imperialist hegemony.

16. We call on the steadfastness and confrontation front to establish the front's organizational cadres and to draw up detailed and serious schedules of action for the implementation of this program.

III. Proposed organizational program for the PLO:

First, we propose the following general principles:

A. Confirmation of the principle of collective leadership as a substitute for the individualistic trend in national Palestinian action;

B. Proportional representation within the PLO's legislative and executive bodies and avoiding domination by a single organization or bloc;

C. The revolution's institutions and leadership bodies must include the strugglers effectively and earnestly participating in the national action and contribute substantially to the activities serving the battles the revolution is waging and contributing to the defeat of the enemies;

Second, we propose the following as practical steps:

1. The National Council:

A. To reduce its membership as much as possible;

B. The council membership to be restricted to the resistance organizations which signed the Tripoli document, in addition to the trade unions, public and popular bodies, health services, organizations for the care of the families of martyrs and those independent professionals on whom the resistance organizations agree;

C. Restricting the council membership according to the following proportions: 60 percent for the resistance organizations, 30 percent for the trade unions and 10 percent for independent professionals involved in revolutionary action;

2. The committees:

A. The creation of committees to follow up the implementation of the National Council resolutions and supervise the function of departments charged with such implementation;

B. The committees should meet in the headquarters of the department it is supervising;

C. The National Council members will be assigned to the committees to be set up;

D. Every committee will draw up the necessary bylaws for its functions;

E. Such committees will be presided over by National Council members who are not members of the Executive Committee;

F. Every committee will elect a chairman and a secretary;

G. Members of the National Council in every country will form a consultative committee for the PLO office in the respective country;

3. The Central Council will:

A. Have the power to make decisions, have the powers of the National Council when it is not in session and draw up the PLO's policy provided it is not contradictory to the council resolutions;

B. Supervise the work of the Executive Committee and the departments that come under it and follow up the work of the committees set up by the council;

C. The Central Council will consist of: the Executive Committee, the chairman of the National Council, chairmen of the National Council committees, representatives of the Palestinian organizations, representatives of trade unions and popular organizations and independent representatives;

The number of representatives will be on the same proportion of representation as in the National Council;

D. The Central Council will draw up bylaws organizing its work and fixing the dates of its periodic meetings; and

E. The council resolutions are binding on the Executive committee.

4. The Executive Committee:

A. The committee will consist of: the chairman, chairman of the national fund, one representative from each of the organizations which signed the Tripoli document, three representatives from popular and trade union organizations and two independents;

B. The principle of collective leadership will apply to the Executive Committee and all matters relating to Palestinian action--financial, political, administrative, military and organizational--should be discussed and decided on by the Executive Committee;

C. The Executive Committee will draw up bylaws organizing its work and defining the method of decisionmaking;

D. The committee will elect from among its members a chairman, a vice chairman and a secretary;

E. The Executive Committee will set up departments for the following affairs: the occupied territories, Jordan, Lebanon, political, military, popular organization, financial, information, educational, national liberation and liberation movements. Each department will be headed by a committee member.

5. PLO offices:

A. PLO offices will be developed and their standard will be raised so they will be capable of serving the decisions of the PLO leadership and its legislative bodies;

B. All the offices will be purged of opportunist and inefficient elements and of those who have deviated from the revolutionary line;

C. A committee will be set up to supervise the offices and to purge them.

6. Trade and professional unions:

A. The unions will adopt the principle of proportional representation at elections;

B. Unions will set up schools to graduate strugglers committed to the cause of the revolution;

C. The unions must represent our masses with their various sectors and forces which are committed to the revolution and working within its framework;

D. The unions will be the means for popular mobilization;

E. The unions will portray to their counterpart unions in the Arab and international arenas a true picture of the loyalty of our masses and their commitment to fight for their cause.

IV. The military program:

1. There is need for the creation of democratic relations between the senior and junior ranks; that is, for the establishment of a popular revolutionary relationship between the commanders, the officers and the soldiers, unlike the traditional military relationship which exists in Arab armies, but not at the expense of military discipline, the execution of orders and implementation of plans. Rather, it must be asserted that a democratic relationship in the revolutionary sense means the right of the fighter to express his views on all political and military subjects as well as mutual respect between the commander and soldiers and the implementation of all the military regulations and laws enacted by the higher bodies.

2. Political education and moral guidance for the armed forces must be treated as equally important as military training. This can be achieved through the establishment of an organizational structure of cultural, central and branch mobilization committees in every military unit. The cultural subjects must be approved by the political command and the central cultural committee for the armed forces.

3. The establishment of a single military command to be called the Central Military Council.

A. The council formation:

1. The council will consist of senior military officials of the organizations which signed the Tripoli document.

2. The formation will reflect the collective nature of the front and will insure that no single front or organization will dominate the council.

3. The creation of divisional commands in the various Lebanese areas which will immediately come under the Central Military Council.

4. The creation of a special command for military operations inside the occupied territories.

5. The formation of a command for the Palestine Liberation Army within the Central Military Council.

6. The creation of a special command for operations abroad.

7. The creation of a special command for the militia forces.

B. The tasks:

1. The implementation of orders and decisions of the political command.

2. The drafting of plans and programs for all fields of military action.

3. The drafting of mobilization and revolutionary education plans.

4. The drafting of a revolutionary formula for compulsive military conscription.

5. The establishment of central and divisional operations rooms.

6. The council shall meet weekly and decisions are to be adopted by majority vote.

7. The council shall report regularly on its activities to the Executive Committee.

The Palestine Liberation Army [PLA]:

At this historical juncture of our Palestinian people's struggle it is essential to establish the will of the masses and the revolution by taking great strides in building our Palestinian revolutionary regular forces by turning the PLA into a Palestinian popular liberation army, the army of the Palestinian revolution, through taking the following steps:

1. Disengaging the PLA from the regimes and putting an end to the dispersion of its forces and commands. The PLA's only link should be with the Palestinian revolution and the political command.

2. Purging the PLA of all elements affiliated with or linked to the regimes hostile to the revolution and the masses.

3. The PLA should be committed to the PLO political command.

4. Military efficiency and commitment to the revolution must be the criteria for the selection of PLA commanders.

5. Setting up a command council for the PLA on the basis of military efficiency and national commitment to the revolution and the masses.

6. The adoption of comradely relationship between the officers and men on the same pattern as in the world revolutionary armies, such as Vietnam, China, Cuba and others.

7. The PLA must take its combat positions and shoulder basic responsibilities in the battle areas.

8. The adoption of disciplinary and financial regulations approved by the military command.

9. Cultural and political mobilization.

Compulsory military service law:

Conditions for the success of the compulsory military service law require the following:

1. Joint and unified military action by all factions is the means by which such a decision can be realized and implemented.

2. Disdaining narrow factional gains.

3. Implementation must follow a large-scale cultural and enlightenment campaign among our masses.

4. This being a new experiment for the Palestinian resistance, it is necessary to pursue a scientific and calm method instead of resorting to actions that would harm the masses and create the impression that the revolution has lost control of its nerves. The success or failure of this great national project largely depends on three basic factors:

First, the adoption of a political decision expressing readiness to defend the revolution by all means within the program and the tasks of the Central Military Council;

Second, that the popular masses regain their effective and influential role in the revolution since it is these masses that give their approval to the commands or withdraw it from them; and,

Third, the freedom of ideological and organizational action within the unified forces.

V. Program of action in Jordan:

1. The establishment of a Jordanian-Palestinian front that will seek to unify the struggle of the Jordanian and Palestinian peoples and lead the common and joint struggles whether in the field of fighting the Zionist enemy or confronting the Jordanian regime.

2. Joining the struggle of the Jordanian and Palestinian peoples with that of the Arab nation in order to achieve national liberation, opposing imperialist plans which aim at imposing capitulatory solutions and situations on the Arab homeland, and liquidating all forms of Zionist and imperialist economic, military and cultural existence.

3. Struggle for the achievement of the freedom of the Palestinian revolution to operate from Jordan, to set up bases on Jordanian territory and to provide popular protection for the fighters going to or returning from Palestine.

4. Involvement of the Jordanian people in the struggle against the Zionist enemy on the grounds that this is a national and patriotic right and that it is necessary to protect Jordan from the Zionist enemy's expansionist designs.

5. Considering the rights and daily demands of our masses as an important matter requiring a joint struggle with the Jordanian national movement.

6. Supporting the demand for the release of political detainees and preserving their human rights.

7. Considering the Palestinian figures cooperating with the Jordanian regime at the expense of the Palestinian revolution and its objectives as being alined with the enemy and who, therefore, must be exposed and prosecuted.

8. Exposing the regime's repressive methods on both the Arab and international levels, baring its daily actions against our masses and opposing such actions by various means.

9. Demanding that the Arab nationalist and progressive regimes and forces boycott the Jordanian regime politically and economically.

10. Mobilizing and organizing the masses and guiding their struggle to establish a national democratic regime in Jordan which believes in and supports the Palestinian revolution and provides an atmosphere for it which is suitable for action and for the contribution of the masses to the revolution's struggle tasks.

VI. Program of action in the occupied territories:

1. Strengthening of national struggle ties between the masses of our citizens in the territories occupied in 1948 and those in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, as well as with our masses outside the occupied country.

2. Opposing the policy of evicting the Arab inhabitants from the land, and defending Arab lands and properties in the face of confiscation and Judaization as well as taking measures that would foil the enemy's successive measures to achieve this end.

3. Political mobilization of the masses with the clear aim of rejecting all the conspiratorial plans that aim at liquidating the cause of our Palestinian people and squandering their rights, whether through Zionist-imperialist plans such as the Palestinian entity, the civil administration, the self-rule, the Allon-Husayn plan and all the similar liquidationist settlements; and mobilization of the people's capabilities in order to defend their land which the enemy is trying to wrest, and to struggle against colonialist Zionism.

4. Every collaborator--whether posing as a substitute for the revolutic , advocating enemy policies or taking part in crimes against the people and the country--to be considered an enemy who must be politically and popularly chased and physically liquidated if he does not repent.

5. Rejecting the unified administration [with Jordan] or the proposed self-rule and combating the advocates of such projects who act as agents for the Jordanian regime or the Zionist enemy, as well as denouncing every intruder on the Palestinian people's rights.

6. Organizing the masses in trade unions in order to defend their daily rights and enable such unions to foil the Histadrut's attempt to lure Arab workers into joining it, as well as to resist the attempts by the Zionist parties to establish branches for them in Arab towns and villages.

7. Supporting and caring for the Arab workers employed in Arab institutes and Arab estates in order to protect them against the temptation to work in enemy projects, encouraging national production projects in order to absorb workers employed by the enemy and resisting and foiling the enemy's attempts to lay hands on national production projects.

8. Supporting the peasant masses, promoting the national economic and cultural institutes in the occupied country, entrenching the citizens in the land, stopping eviction and assimilation and resisting the Zionist economic and cultural invasion.

9. Combating colonization and the planting of settlements by all available means and fighting land brokers and regarding them as hostile to the masses and their national causes.

10. Boycotting municipal elections conducted by the enemy and considering such elections null and void as long as they are conducted under his control. No authority has legal power over our masses except the revolutionary authority.

11. Activating and supporting the social institutes and promoting social, medical, educational, artistic and sports activities; preserving the national heritage of our people; fulfilling our duties toward our strugglers in the jails of the Zionist enemy; giving priority in services to the families; and defending the people's rights and supporting their causes on all occasions and in every Arab and international arena.

12. Reviving our folklore and the resistance lore as an expression of our people's adherence to their land and heroic struggle to defend the land.

13. Defending our sacred places in the face of the Zionists' attempts and their efforts to demolish or seize them.

VII. Program of action in the Lebanese arena:

1. Struggle to insure the continuity of resistance operations of all kinds, foremost of which is armed struggle, from the Lebanese territory in order to fight the enemy and all attempts to liquidate, to cut down to size or to render militarily ineffective and devoid of revolutionary content the Palestinian military presence there.

2. Struggle to consolidate the unity and cohesion of the Lebanese and Palestinian people, whether in confronting the attempts to strike at the revolution or the Lebanese Nationalist Movement, or in supporting the Nationalist Movement in its struggle for a democratic and nationalist Lebanon committed to the cause of national struggle, and fighting alongside the Nationalist Movement and under its leadership all the suspect plans that aim at partitioning or creating cantonments and building a sectarian army. Also, promoting democratic freedoms, the creation of a national army and the joint struggle for causes related to the revolution or to the Lebanese Nationalist Movement.

3. Involvement of the sons of the Lebanese people in the armed struggle against the Zionist enemy on the grounds that it is a national right and vital for the protection of the Arabism of Lebanon and its territories against the designs of the Zionist enemy.

4. The participation of all the able-bodied sons of the Palestinian people in the battle of destiny through general mobilization and national military service; that is, compulsory military service, for young men and women.

5. Establishment of the revolution's authority inside the Palestinian camps and consolidating such authority through revolutionary means, not throught violence, repression and terror.

6. Consolidating the powers of popular committees inside the camps by revising their structure so that the masses can choose their representatives or withdraw confidence from such representatives at any time, provided this is done with the participation of all the sons of the Palestinian people, both men and women, who have reached the age of 18; placing the armed struggle authority under the command of popular committees; providing such committees with material and moral resources that enable them to establish a real popular authority; and seeking to establish a general popular council consisting of representatives from the popular committees in all the Palestinian camps and acting as the higher authority for these committees.

7. Dealing with all the problems of our people in the camps and drawing up regulations for preserving security inside the camps, and appointing enlightened cadres who are capable of dealing with the problems of our people democratically, not through terror, arrest and imprisonment. In other words, the task of the present authority should change from that of being Palestinian gendarmes reminiscent of the Lebanese gendarmes into a revolutionary resource acceptable to our masses.

8. Showing concern with the day to day and social problems of our people, providing assistance to deal with the problems of unemployment, social and health care and education; setting up specialized committees in every camp under the popular committees so that those working in the field of such services will be under the control of the committees and the masses.

9. Placing under surveillance and chasing agents and fifth columnists and doing away with all wrong practices and manifestations that harm the revolution's prestige and its relations with the masses.

10. Using political information and popular means and the creation of productive projects to provide job opportunities for the Palestinian youth, in order to combat emigration that empties the camps of youth.

11. Promoting sports and encouraging sporting and artistic talents, reviving the Palestinian heritage, establishing clubs, setting up reading rooms, scouts and popular organizations.

12. Combating increasing prices and the establishment of cooperatives backed by the revolution with the participation of the masses so as insure the people's needs at the lowest prices possible.

13. The adoption of the principle of proportional representation in all the popular organizations and unions and the nomination of a single list of candidates throughout Lebanon, with the list including proportional representation from all the unions and all the political forces. This would do away once and for all with the previous methods of elections that deprived these unions of much of their potential and capabilities and restricted their effectiveness and ability to work.

14. Caring for the health of the sons of our people through providing doctors, medicines and clinics and organizing this service so as to adequately meet the needs of the masses.

15. Promoting the spirit of democratic dialog, rejecting the method of internecine fighting, strengthening the unity of the revolution and the masses.

[Signed] The Arab Liberation Front, the Palestine Liberation Front, the Popular Struggle Front, the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine.

BAGHDAD VOP: PLO SEEKS U.S. RECOGNITION

JN072123Y Baghdad Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1830 GMT 7 Sep 78 JN

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] The PLO leadership has again started to harp on the issue of a dialog with the United States and to demand U.S. recognition of the organization. The PLO leadership is painstakingly working to bring about such a dialog through a number of reactionary Arab regimes which have intimate relations with Washington. Press reports confirm that the PLO has drafted a memorandum to be submitted to the Arab League Council to be held on 12 September.

The memorandum contains a PLO suggestion that a committee of three or four Arab states be assigned the task of convincing Washington to open a dialog with the PLO leadership.

What is interesting in this report is that the attempts of the PLO leadership to hold a dialcg with Washington come during the Camp David summit, a meeting which is being attacked by certain PLO leaders. These leaders announce their attention to reject the summit's results. How can the PLO leadership attack this settlement conference and at the same time ask Washington to open a dialog with it? The only explanations for such an attitude are the following:

1. The organization's leadership hopes that the Camp David conference might at least result in a mention of the PLO's role in the settlement.

2. The PLO leadership is ready to announce its real attitude and to support As-Sadat the moment it realizes that it has a role in any agreement arrived at by the conference.

3. The committee which the PLO has suggested to the Arab League must of necessity include regimes historically connected with the United States. We do not need to name these regimes because they are known by all Arabs.

4. The price which will be paid by the PLO in exchange for a U.S. response to such a request cannot be less than major historical concessions which will include Arab territories and which will be a final and decisive recognition of the Zionist entity. The series of steps the PLO leadership is taking shows that the PLO is following a path leading to such ends.

Some might ask to what extent the PLO can dictate terms to Washington and make demands in the memorandum, such as that the United States must put an end to its support for the enemy, assume a more balanced policy in the Middle East, stop all financial guarantees and aid and stop backing the enemy at international meetings. The answer here will certainly be very derisive and the PLO leadership deserves such an answer. The United States has always shown definitely that it will never abandon its ally, the Zionist entity. Moreover, the PLO leadership is not in a position to make such demands because it has no means to put pressure on or affect the United States.

This PLO memorandum is not actually directed at Washington, but is for local consumption. It is an attempt to fool the masses and to belittle their intellect. The moment the committee begins attempts to convince Washington of the PLO's points, the PLO (?terms) will start falling one after the other, and the PLO can only begin provided the Arab regimes succeed in bringing about a successful mediation. In any event, the PLO leadership will have to sign a long list of concessions before winning the recognition of the U.S. administration.

VOP REPORTS 22 FEDAYEEN OPERATIONS IN PAST MONTH

JN041924Y Voice of Palestine [Clandestine] in Arabic to Arab World 1630 GMT 4 Sep 78 JN

[Excerpts] Brothers, the Zionist entity is suffering from the war of bomb planting which is being carried out daily by the Palestinian revolutionaries against vital installations in the center of the occupied homeland.

It is noteworthy that the Palestinian revolutionaries have carried out more than 22 bomb planting operations during the past month, as the enemy has admitted. All the security measures of the Zionist enemy have failed to put an end to the fedayeen operations against vital enemy centers. These operations have also spread horror among the enemy settlers, and the enemy gives awards to any settler who discovers a bomb.

The continuing brave operations of the Palestinian revolutionaries on a daily basis prove that all enemy security measures will fail to stop the escalating military operations of the Palestinian fedayeen against vital installations. If the enemy believes that he can stop the operations of our revolutionaries by increasing his savagery and brutality against our citizens in the occupied homeland, he will be disappointed, because the coming days will show even more clearly the failure of his measures to end the war of bomb planting or to contain the escalation of the resistance.

The masses in the occupied homeland, which form the flowing tributary for our revolution, are capable of developing the means to struggle daily against this occupation enemy. These masses are also strong enough to foil the oppressive Zionist measures, regardless of the fierceness of these measures.

BAHRAIN

MINISTER LEAVES FOR BAGHDAD ECONOMIC MEETINGS

JN071530Y Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1455 GMT 7 Sep 78 JN

[Text] Manama, 7 September--Ibrahim 'Abd al-Karim, the Bahraini minister of finance and national economy, left here this afternoon for Baghdad at the head of a delegation to attend the meetings of the Arab Economic Council due to begin in Baghdad this coming Saturday. Following these meetings the Bahraini minister is also due in Washington to attend the meetings of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development and the International Monetary Fund.

KUWAIT

YAR PRESIDENTIAL ENVOY ARRIVES FOR TALKS

LD071838. Kuwait Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 7 Sep 78 LD

[Text] 'Abdallah Humran, minister of state and personal representative of President of the Yemen Arab Republic Lt Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, arrived in Kuwait today. Humran told the KUWAIT NEWS AGENCY on arrival that he is bringing a letter to the amir of Kuwait from his brother to Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih. He said that during his visit to Kuwait he is going to have a meeting with the crown prince and chairman of the Council of Ministers, Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah as-Sabah, and the deputy chairman of the council of ministers and foreign minister, Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir as-Sabah.

Humran added that the recent Yemeni move seeks to strengthen relations and work toward unifying Arab ranks and toward marshaling opinion. He said that this move springs from the YAR's deeply held belief in the need to discourage any dismembering or disunity in the Arab ranks, and thus the YAR stresses the need for a meeting of the Arab brethren to discuss important Arab issues, primarily the issue of Palestine. Regarding relations with the southern region of Yemen, Humran said: The Yemen Arab Republic has stated its position and has made it clear to the Arab countries. He went on to add that the Yemeni Government is committed to the decision adopted by the Arab League. YAR Minister of Agriculture 'Ali 'Abdallah al-Matari arrived on the same aircraft on his way to Damascus to attend the regional conference of Arab ministers of agriculture to be held there.

OFFICIAL DENIES RELAXING BOYCOTT AGAINST ISRAEL

NC070855Y Doha QNA in Arabic 0828 GMT 7 Sep 78 NC

[Text] Kuwait, 7 September--Kuwait has denied that it has relaxed the Arab Boycott measures against Israel. 'Abd ar-Rahman al-Ghunaym, under secretary of the Kuwaiti Ministry of Communications, has denied a DPA report from Beirut that Kuwait has relaxed the boycott measures against Israel to enable U.S. companies to continue their operations in Kuwait.

In a statement published in the Kuwaiti newspaper AL-ANBA' today, Al-Ghunaym said that no changes were made to the Arab Boycott regulations in Kuwait, but certain measures have been amended. Al-Ghunaym affirmed that Kuwait strictly adheres to the boycott regulations. DPA had reported that Kuwait has relaxed the Arab Boycott measures against Israel and that, under a new legislation, the U.S. companies no longer need to prove that they have no trade or other relations with Israel.

SAUDI ARABIA

SNA CORRESPONDENT REPORTS ON CAMP DAVID TALKS

LD072324Y Riyadh SNA in Arabic 2245 GMT 7 Sep 78 LD

[Text] Maryland, 7 September--The SAUDI NEWS AGENCY (SNA) correspondent covering the Camp David conference reports that the general impression prevalent there is that the differences of views between Egypt and the Israeli enemy are not confined to the basic issues of the occupied territory and the problems of security alone but also extend to the concepts of Egyptian President Anwar as-Sadat and Israeli Prime Minister Menahem Begin of what the conference is likely to produce. The officials have described the conference as being almost the last attempt to save the talks begun with President as-Sadat's visit to Jerusalem last November. The SNA correspondent adds that there are predictions of strong American pressures to be brought to bear on enemy Prime Minister Menahem Begin.

YEMEN--PDRY

SAWT AL-'UMMAL WARNS AGAINST ENEMIES' DESIGNS

LD071712Y Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 7 Sep 78 LD/EA

[Text] Today's SAWT AL-'UMMAL warns that the proponents of the feverish and rabid campaigns against Democratic Yemen and its progressive regime are planning to plunge the single Yemeni people into fighting and make them slaves of backwardness, humiliation and provocation.

The newspaper stresses that our working class reaffirms its vigilance toward these designs and conspiracies; its unity around the guiding political vanguard, the United Political Organization-National Front, and its ability to resolutely resist all attempts by class enemies aimed at impairing its revolutionary gains. The newspaper explains that the masses of our people have learned from the lessons of the recent past, and that their interests lie in unity against their traditional enemies--the enemies of their revolution and progress. They will only draw their weapons against those who want them to live--deprived of will--in backwardness, ignorance, disease and war--from which only warmongers and profiteers benefit.

'ALI NASIR MUHAMMAD RECEIVES INDIAN AMBASSADOR

LD071700Y Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 7 Sep 78 LD/EA

[Summary] Presidential Council Chairman 'Ali Nasir Muhammad today received India's ambassador to Aden, who handed him a written message from Prime Minister Desai. They had cordial talks on cooperation and friendship between the two countries.

YEMEN--YAR

STATEMENT ISSUED ON EXECUTIONS, RELATIONS WITH PDRY

JN071538Y San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 7 Sep 78 JN

[Text] Foreign Minister 'Abdallah al-Asnaj, in the presence of the under secretary of the Foreign Ministry, this morning received the heads of the fraternal and friendly diplomatic missions in San'a'. The foreign minister conveyed to the heads of the diplomatic missions the following statement issued by the Foreign Ministry:

On the morning of 6 September 1978, the criminal 'Abduh ash-Shuqafi and six other saboteurs were executed by firing squad in the public cemetery grounds in San'a'. The execution was attended by a judge from the State Security Court and several officers from the Ministry of Interior, and took place before a large crowd of citizens.

It is recalled that these saboteurs were sentenced in absentia on 11 August 1978 by the Supreme State Security Court to be executed according to the glorious Islamic religion and the laws prevailing in the country because of their crimes of murders, sabotage, burglary, rape and highway banditry, which they committed either individually or as a group against Yemeni citizens in Al-Fajir and other districts.

These saboteurs, as well as others, had escaped to Aden, where they were received and cared for by the authorities there. These saboteurs were placed in training camps supervised by experts from foreign countries to be trained and prepared to carry out terrorist actions. This constitutes a grave situation against the nation, our general security and the citizens.

Before their execution the criminals gave written and oral confessions. Owing to the seriousness of these confessions, the YAR, as instructed by Lt Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, YAR president and commander in chief of the armed forces, and at the request of Prime Minister Dr 'Abd al-'Aziz 'Abd al-Ghani, would like to convey the following points to all fraternal and friendly governments as well as to the Arab League secretary general.

1. The YAR security and military authorities confirm the existence of foreign military concentrations, which are growing in the southern part of the homeland at a time when there is no massing for forces at our military positions. Furthermore, there are no foreign military bases, forces or facilities in the YAR.

2. The above-mentioned authorities have confirmation that a sabotage plan has been prepared and actually put into action against the security and stability of the YAR and the countries of this area. This has been done as a preliminary step for a foreign invasion to be launched from the southern part of the homeland.

3. The YAR warns against the dire consequences of the continuous aggressive policy of the ruling regime in Aden to cover up a new liquidation plan to be carried out in Aden itself. This is to be achieved by complicating relations with the YAR.

4. The YAR urges the fraternal and friendly countries to fully study the consequences of the situation and to assume their responsibilities toward the aggressor.

5. We appeal to the Arab League to send a factfinding military mission to investigate the massing of hostile military forces throughout the southern part of the Yemeni homeland, and to investigate the increasing numbers of foreign soldiers in Aden who have been there since the bloody incidents which followed the assassination of late President Ahmad Husayn al-Ghashmi and the liquidation of Salim Rubayii' 'Ali.

6. The YAR reiterates its firm belief that the Red Sea and the Indian Ocean should be kept removed from international crises. It also believes that the strait of Bab al-Mandab must remain open to all international navigation. The YAR is also convinced that the littoral states should insure that this strait is not used to se e the strategic ambitions of any of the great powers.

7. While rejecting aggression and warning against the dangers which may ensue from violating its sovereignty and national security, the YAR wishes to expose the conspiratorial role of the regime in Aden, which constitutes a serious threat to the interests of the Arab nation especially in the current difficult phase.

8. The YAR reserves the right to self-defense and to confront the impending danger. This will be done in cooperation with fraternal and friendly countries. However, we will not be the first to initiate aggression.

The Foreign Ministry takes this opportunity to express its sincere gratitude and appreciation.

Issued in San'a', 7 September 1978

ECONOMY MINISTER BRIEFS AL-GHANI ON TALKS IN LIBYA

JN071904Y San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 7 Sep 78 JN

[Text] Prime Minister 'Abd al-'Aziz 'Abd al-Ghani received in his office today Economy Minister Dr Ahmad al-Hamadani, who briefed the brother prime minister on the results of his visit to the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah, where he represented the YAR at the celebrations marking the anniversary of the 1 September Revolution.

In a statement to the SABA' NEWS AGENCY, the brother economy minister said that he represented the YAR at the celebrations marking the anniversary of the 1 September Revolution. He conveyed the greetings of the president and commander in chief, 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, and of the Yemeni people to leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi and the fraternal Libyan people on the anniversary of the 1 September Revolution.

The brother economy minister also stated that leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi asked him to convey an oral message to the brother president dealing with fraternal and friendly relations between the two fraternal countries.

The brother economy minister concluded his statement by saying that he held discussions with the industry secretary in the Libyan Jamahiriyah on Libyan aid in the fields of education and health. He added: I felt a great understanding and readiness on the part of the Libyan brothers to extend aid to our country in all fields.

CAIRO RADIO REPORTS 7 SEP CAMP DAVID ACTIVITIES

NC072200Y Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 7 Sep 78 NC

[Text] In a dispatch sent from Washington, the radio team reports that the three leaders, Jimmy Carter, Anwar as-Sadat and Menahem Begin, held their closed meeting today at Camp David at 1630, Cairo time. The meeting lasted 3 hours and 5 minutes.

Spokesman for the Camp David conference Jody Powell has stated that the three delegations held successive meetings last night, with each delegation meeting separately, to review the results of yesterday's discussions.

The official spokesman also announced that regarding the next 3 days, which will be holidays, the three leaders will perform their religious rites within Camp David. The spokesman added that the necessary preparations have been made to enable every leader to say his prayers.

When asked about the nature of the subjects which were most likely discussed by President as-Sadat with Weizman at their meeting earlier today, the official spokesman declined to answer. He said that he could not disclose what had gone on at this meeting.

Asked whether U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance will discuss bilateral matters with the delegations, such as the transfer of arms to the Middle East, the official spokesman said that he could not confirm this. He added that U.S. Defense Secretary Harold Brown had arrived at Camp David because there is a likelihood that he will participate in the talks.

Asked whether the Egyptian and Israeli delegations had requested to spend the weekend at Camp David [as heard] so that the two delegations would have an opportunity to meet with the people, the official spokesman said: The United States has not imposed any restrictions on the two delegations. However, the United States hopes that this will not lead to an information leak on the part of any of the two sides, so that it will be possible to make progress during the negotiations.

The official spokesman described the atmosphere at the talks as an atmosphere fostering the achievement of progress. He then answered a question on whether Egypt and Israel are holding direct negotiations. The spokesman said: There is something which can possibly be described as direct talks between the two sides at the unofficial level. Unofficial discussions at a ministerial level have been held previously.

Today U.S. President Jimmy Carter met at 1430, Cairo time, with Israeli Prime Minister Begin. On the U.S. side, the meeting was attended by Secretary of State Cyrus Vance and U.S. presidential assistant for national security affairs Brzezinski. On the Israeli side, the meeting was attended by Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan and Defense Minister 'Ezer Weizman. The U.S.-Israeli meeting lasted 1 hour and 55 minutes.

Further Details

NC080655Y Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 2330 GMT 7 Sep 78 NC

[Excerpt] Presidents Anwar as-Sadat and Jimmy Carter and Israeli Prime Minister Menahem Begin held a meeting at 2300 today, Cairo time. U.S. President Jimmy Carter and Mrs Carter will host a reception tonight for President as-Sadat and Menahem Begin and the official delegations participating in the Camp David conference. The reception will be held in President Carter's suite.

U.S. Vice President Walter Mondale met yesterday evening with Foreign Minister Muhammad Ibrahim Kamil. The 1-hour meeting was attended by U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance.

Cyrus Vance, Defense Secretary Harold Brown and Dr. Brzezinski, the U.S. President's adviser for national security affairs, met with Israeli Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan and Defense Minister 'Ezer Weizman last night. The meeting was attended by a number of Israeli advisers. U.S. Vice President Walter Mondale joined the meeting an hour after it began.

7 Sep Press Review

NC0709llY Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0610 GMT 7 Sep 78 NC

[Press review]

[Text] Cairo's three newspapers today show great interest in the tripartite Camp David summit discussions among President as-Sadat, President Carter and Prime Minister Menahem Begin, which began last evening. These discussions are being held with a view to reaching a formula for the establishment of just peace in the Middle East. The papers note that the summit conference began with two separate meetings President Carter held with President as-Sadat and Menahem Begin at President Carter's resthouse. The discussions during the meetings centered on the basic difficulties which constitute the crux of the Middle East conflict.

The papers note that after these meetings, the first tripartite meeting was held. It lasted 1 hour and 40 minutes.

The papers point out that in view of the secrecy shrouding this political meeting, various political judgments and analyses have emerged from various world capitals in an attempt to go beyond what is going on within the Camp David walls. The papers explain this by referring to the widespread international reaction to the Camp David meetings. The papers say that all the governments and the press in various capitals, despite their different tendencies, are unanimous on the extreme important of the tripartite summit and the steps it might take regarding the future of peace in the Middle East.

The Cairo newspapers also prominently feature the agreement of various circles that the conference represents a moment of truth as far as Menahem Begin is concerned and that it will be a crucial test for assessing the extent of the confidence the Arab states have in Washington. It also represents a similar test of the extent of success that Eastern diplomacy could realize for U.S. President Carter.

Under the title "Awaiting the Courageous Decision," the newspaper AL-AKHBAR says: The Camp David conference results depend on a courageous decision by U.S. President Carter. This is the gist of all the views being expressed and commentaries made on the conference and its possible success or expected failure.

The truth is that the evidence coming to light from the first moment of the conference meetings indicates that the gap is still great between the stands of the two sides. President as-Sadat has announced that this is not the time for maneuvers and wornout ideas. It is the time for magnanimous and rational work. The conference must be a decisive act on the road to peace and no one has a right to block the way to peace.

Menahem Begin says that it is unreasonable for the conference to decide an issue which dates back 1,800 years, that we must see to it that the negotiations continue and that everything is negotiable.

The paper expresses its conviction that the gap is wide between what President as-Sadat seeks--that the conference be decisive in guaranteeing and achieving peace--and what Menahem Begin seeks--that the conference be a means for the continuation of the negotiations and maneuvers until the day comes for the world to say: Peace for us, according to Menahem Begin.

In addition to this wide gap in the issue before the conference, there is another, similar gap regarding the form of the conference. President as-Sadat is asking that the United States be a full partner in the establishment of a just comprehensive peace in the Middle East, while Menahem Begin continues to refuse and to challenge the United States' full partnership in the conference. All Begin accepts is that the United States supervise the conference, nothing more. He even took his challenge to the limit. Upon his arrival in the United States, Begin announced that he will provide facilities to the conference in order to safeguard President Carter's international esteem. This means that Begin controls the situation in the conference and controls President Carter's reputation.

It is in such a situation of differences which reach the point of being contradictions, between the two sides, that the Camp David conference has begun. President as-Sadat is committed to a specific, just stand. The world is convinced that this stand does not accept maneuvers and bargaining or so-called concessions. Menahem Begin is insisting on his stand of maneuvering and bargaining and says that everything is negotiable.

Therefore, the commentators and politicians have not been able to form a clear picture of the results of the conference and how much success it might be able to achieve to insure peace based on right and justice. The hope in all this depends on a courageous decision by President Carter and what this decision involves. The paper emphasizes that the situation in the great conference hinges on the decision the U.S. President makes and that the whole world is awaiting this courageous decision.

Under the heading "The Song of the Deceived Choir" the newspaper AL-AHRAM today comments on the reiteration of lies and slanders by the agent Arab minority, while it realizes that it is only deceiving itself by continuing to play the tune conducted by its master in Moscow--the master who is attacking the Camp David conference for reasons linked with Soviet plans for the Middle East.

The paper affirms that President Anwar as-Sadat has undertaken to face the big challenge by having the United States assume its full responsibilities and by giving Israel a final choice with regard to its existence.

The paper points out that what is pathetic is that the agent minority should imagine that the Arab people are not aware of the reality of Soviet policy, which aims at creating estrangement among the Arabs and attempts to polarize certain regimes for its own purposes. All the Arab people know in detail Moscow's story with the Arab confrontation forces, particularly before and after the October 1973 war, when the Soviet Union tried to prevent Egypt from even thinking of waging the war and denied it weapons to compel it to succumb to its wish. When the Soviet Union's efforts failed, it sought to strike at Arab solidarity. It also continued to conspire against the Arab states. The aims behind establishing itself in the Horn of Africa are only part of this conspiracy.

Therefore, the Soviet Union cannot speak about the interests of the Arab people. If the agent minority were sensible, it would have asked the Soviet Union and itself: Why did Moscow refuse to participate in the preparatory conference held in Cairo, to which all the parties concerned with the Middle East crisis were invited?

Why does Moscow, in every international talks it holds and in every joint statement it issues, reject the expression of proper preparations for the Geneva conference by reaching an agreement on the fundamental principles for negotiating a solution to the crisis? Egypt has undertaken the responsibility of extracting these principles in accordance with the UN resolutions, which have become a sacred basis for which there is no substitute.

The paper says that Gromyko's allegation that the Camp David talks are separate experiments is futile. It is regrettable that the Syrian Government has gone along with him in his misleading attempts. The paper describes President Hafiz al-Asad's statements attacking Egypt's representation of the Arab nation's interests as mere words intended for local consumption, prompted by the difficulties facing the Syrian regime.

What remains is that the deceived choir and the Israeli leaders must hear what President as-Sadat said upon his arrival in the United States. No one has the right to block the way to peace. We have no time for maneuvers or wornout ideas. It is time for magnanimous thinking and reason.

Commenting on the same subject, the newspaper AL-AKHBAR emphasizes that the Arab nation has not known a state which has conspired against it, its fate, its convictions and its religion and exploited its human and material resources as the Soviet Union has conspired against the Arab nation.

The paper warns that Moscow wishes to impose its trusteeship on the Arabs by bloodshed, murder and plots. Moscow believes that no Arab state is strong enough to determine its own fate or make its own decisions and that any fateful decision must be made in Moscow first, so that it may be blessed and be satisfactory. If such a decision is not made in Moscow, it is wrong and a curse and must be fought.

The paper points out that the Soviet Union, which has brought all these calamities upon the Arab nation, divided it into statelets antagonizing each other and destroyed the unity and strength of the Arabs, is now shedding or trying to shed crocodile tears over Arab rights and the Palestinian issue, whereas 30 full years have elapsed during which the Soviet Union has offered only distress to the Palestinians. The Soviet Union has tried to arm the Palestinians or give them money only to kill each other and murder their Arab brothers and implement Moscow's plots and plans, the only aim of which is to serve the Soviet Union's interests by crushing the Arab nation and bringing it under Moscow's influence.

Moscow radio is now trying to broadcast a number of lies about the Camp David conference by alleging that its purpose is to achieve a separate solution between Egypt and Israel and by saying other such things which we have often heard but which have later been exposed as mere calumnies.

The paper explains that such things are not beyond the Kremlin rulers, who forged imaginary agreements between Egypt and Israel when the first and second disengagement agreements were reached, in order to incite the Palestinians against Egypt in accordance with the Kremlin rulers' policy, which aims at having the Arabs killed by the Arabs.

The paper concludes: We have often declared that not an inch of land will be ceded and that we accept only just and comprehensive peace and the solution of the whole problem. If Moscow can do this, let it come forward and we will welcome it. But if it cannot do this--and we are sure that it cannot--it should remain silent and leave the Arabs to solve their own problem and bring about Israeli withdrawal from their land.

INFORMATION MINISTER CONVEYS AS-SADAT INVITATION TO POPE

LD0802547 Cairo Voice of the Arabs in Arabic 0015 GMT 8 Sep 78 LD

[Text] Minister of Information and Culture 'Abd al-Mun'im as-Sawi returned to Cairo last evening after representing Egypt at the coronation ceremony of Pope John Paul I, pope of the Catholic Church.

Upon arrival, 'Abd al-Mun'im as-Sawi said that he had conveyed two messages from President as-Sadat to the Holy See, one verbal and the other written. The verbal message concerned the president's invitation to the pope to visit Egypt and to join in saying prayers at Jabal Musa in Sinai, so that heads of the divine religions could pray on the same day as a gesture of the unity of faith and in support of the work for unification throughout the world.

He said that the pope had welcomed the message. He had also welcomed the Egyptian mission as one representing an Islamic state.

QNA: AL-AHALI EDITOR FORBIDDEN TO LEAVE EGYPT

NC0709097 Doha QNA in Arabic 0845 GMT 7 Sep 78 NC

[Text] Kuwait, 7 September--Quoting its Cairo correspondent, the Kuwaiti weekly AL-HADAF today reports that a decision has been issued forbidding Lutfi Wakid, chief editor of the Egyptian newspaper AL-AHALI, to leave the country.

The paper says that it was also decided that the socialist public prosecutor will conduct an investigation of Wakid regarding the articles and subjects published in seven editions which were confiscated before printing.

Lutfi Wakid is the eighth journalist to be investigated by the Egyptian socialist public prosecutor.

ARAB LEAGUE'S RIYAD ARRIVES IN BAGHDAD

JN0719?9Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 1845 GMT 7 Sep 78 JN

[Excerpts] Baghdad, 7 September--Arab League Secretary General Mahmud Riyad arrived in Baghdad this evening to attend the meetings of the 25th session of the Arab Economic and Social Council due to begin day after tomorrow, Saturday. He was received at the airport by Hamid 'Alwan, minister of state for foreign affairs, and Dr 'Abd al-Muhsin Zalzalah, Arab League assistant secretary general for economic affairs. Abu Bakr ash-Sharif, Libyan trade secretary, has also arrived in Baghdad at the head of a delegation to attend these mee ngs.

VICE PRESIDENT LEAVES FOR DPRK ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS

JN071025Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 0930 GMT 7 Sep 78 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 7 September--Vice President Taha Muhyi ad-Din Ma'ruf left Baghdad this morning for Pyongyang on a 10-day visit at the official invitation of the Korean Government and the Korean Workers Party. Ma'ruf is heading an Iraqi delegation to the celebrations marking the 30th anniversary of the founding of the DPRK, to be held there on Saturday. The delegation accompanying Ma'ruf includes member of the Ba'th Regional Command and member of the Revolutionary Command Council Burhan ad-Din 'Abd ar-Rahman and other party and government officials.

Stops in Pakistan

JN081217Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 0750 GMT 8 Sep 78 JN

[Text] Islamabad, 8 September--Vice President Taha Muhyi ad-Din Ma'ruf has conveyed the greetings of President Ahmad Hasan al-Bakr and those of Revolution Command Council Vice Chairman Saddam Husayn to Pakistan's President Fazal Elahi Chaudhry and Chief Martial Law Administrator Gen Mohammad Ziaul Haq. This took place during Ma'ruf's meeting with Ziaul Haq during his stopover in Islamabad last evening on his way to Pyongyang. During this meeting the two sides reviewed bilateral relations and issues of mutual interest, including the situation in the Arab area. The INA correspondent in Islamabad has learned that Ma'ruf has extended an official invitation to Ziaul Haq to visit Iraq. The invitation has been accepted and the date of the visit will be determined later. Ziaul Haq hosted a dinner in honor of the Iraqi vice president and the delegation accompanying him. The dinner was attended by members of the Pakistani Government.

TRADE MINISTER RETURNS FROM SWITZERLAND

JN072053Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 2010 GMT 7 Sep 78 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 7 September--Hasan 'Ali, Revolution Command Council member and trade minister, returned to Baghdad tonight after heading the Iraqi side at the meetings of the first session of the Iraqi-Swiss joint committee which concluded in Berne this morning. 'Ali said that during his visit he met with the president of the Swiss Confederation and conveyed regards from President Ahmad Hasan al-Bakr and wishes for continued success for the Swiss people. He said that during the meeting they discussed relations between Iraq and Switzerland. He also discussed bilateral relations with the Swiss foreign minister [title as received].

'Ali said that the meeting held in Switzerland ended with the signing of a program that outlines joint cooperation in the fields of industry, agriculture, communications, tourism and introduction of advanced technology. He said that this program will contribute to developing trade and diversifying Iraqi exports to include sulfur, fertilizers and dates.

BUTRUS SAYS LEBANON TO ATTEND ARAB LEAGUE COUNCIL MEETING

NC081215Y Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 8 Sep 78 NC

[Text] His Excellency President Ilyas Sarkis held a meeting at 1230 today attended by Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign and Defense Minister Fu'ad Butrus. The meeting lasted until 1350. After the meeting Minister Butrus confirmed, in reply to a question, that Lebanon will participate in the meetings of the Arab League Council in Cairo on 12 September.

RIGHTWING PARTIES COORDINATE STAND IN JUBAYL AREA

NC071233Y Voice of Lebanon [Clandestine] in Arabic to Lebanon 1115 GMT 7 Sep 78 NC

[Text] Representatives of the Phalangist and the National Liberal parties and of the Guards of the Cedars have met at the Phalangist center in Jubayl.

After reviewing the difficult circumstances being experienced by various Lebanese areas which are threatened by negative security implications, the conferees decided:

1. To achieve complete coordination among the Phalangists, the Liberals and the Guards of the Cedars and other popular, social and cultural organizations in the Jubayl area.

2. To consider the legitimate authority responsible for the safety and security of the area. They decided to place the potential of the parties and organizations at the disposal of the Lebanese Army so that it may assume its security duties.

3. To maintain self-restraint and farsightedness and to avoid everything disturbing security or assuming military manifestations for any reason.

4. Any person acting contrary to the principles of this statement, whether he is a citizen or a resident of this area, will be fully responsible for his action.

5. A followup committee will be set up to supervise the implementation of these clauses and to report any breach or violation.

PARLIAMENTARY SPEAKER ON CAMP DAVID CONFERENCE

NC071647Y Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1530 GMT 7 Sep 78 NC

[Excerpts] After the joint meeting of the parliamentary Defense and Administration and Justice committees, Parliamentary Speaker Kamil al-As'ad held a press conference in which he spoke about the positive atmosphere of the meeting and the effects of the approval of the defense bill on the political and security situations in the country. [begin recording]

[Question] A question, Mr Speaker, which is perhaps unrelated to the discussions during the meeting today but is related to the whole area--the question of the Camp David conference. Do you have an assessment right now about the possible results of the conference?

[Answer] An assessment of the Camp David conference, in my opinion, is connected with the results which may emerge from it. This is self-evident. However, the results will be positive or negative only when measured against Arab solidarity and the unified Arab stand.

If these results are positive as far as the conference is concerned and do not lead to the unity of the Arab ranks, these positive results will reflect, in my view, in a negative way on the issue of peace in the area. The opposite is also true. Even if the results are negative but lead to the restoration of Arab solidarity and the unity of the Arab ranks, then we can say the results were sound and correct. [end recording]

STATE DEPARTMENT OFFICIAL MEETS WITH SARKIS, BUTRUS

NC0711147Y Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1030 GMT 7 Sep 78 NC

[Text] At 1100 today in the presidential palace President Ilyas Sarkis received the director of the Middle East division in the U.S. State Department, Mr Wat Cluverius, on the occasion of his visit to Lebanon. He was accompanied by the U.S. ambassador to Lebanon, Richard Parker. A review was made of the developments in the Middle East crisis and their effect on the situation in Lebanon.

After the 90-minute meeting, Ambassador Parker said: We talked about the situation in the country and in the area and about the Camp David meetings. I came with Mr Cluverius, who is on an orientation tour of the area, in order to introduce him to President Sarkis. The U.S. ambassador denied that Mr Cluverius carried specific questions about the situation in Lebanon. He just said that he is making an orientation tour of the area.

Asked whether, after the orientation talks which took place between Mr Cluverius, President Sarkis and Minister Butrus, he thinks a solution is possible, the U.S. ambassador said: I have no comment.

In reply to a final question, the U.S. ambassador said: Mr Cluverius will leave Beirut tomorrow for Damascus.

The situation in the area and the developments in the Middle East crisis were also the subject of consultations today between Foreign Minister Fu'ad Butrus and Mr Cluverius. Minister Butrus met with Mr Cluverius at 0945 today. Mr Cluverius was accompanied by Ambassador Parker. The meeting lasted 1 hour. After the meeting the U.S. ambassador said: I came to greet Minister Butrus, together with Mr Cluverius, the director of the Middle East division and the official responsible for the affairs of Lebanon, Syria, Jordan and Iraq in the U.S. State Department.

Asked the purpose of this visit, the U.S. ambassador said: It is an orientation visit, which dealt with all matters of interest to Lebanon and the area.

Mr Cluverius agreed with Ambassador Parker that the visit is an orientation one.

The following dialog took place between Minister Butrus and the journalists:

Question: Will you visit Damascus soon?

Answer: I have no news.

Question: It is said that your visit to Damascus is for the purpose of preparing for a summit meeting between Presidents Sarkis and Al-Asad.

Answer: I have read this in the press and, so far, there is nothing.

Asked about the visit of Mr Cluverius, Minister Butrus said: He is visiting the area before assuming his post as director of the Middle East division in the U.S. state department and to exchange views and ideas with the officials about the area. Our talks with him were within this context.

AFP REPORTS 8 SEPTEMBER ON SITUATION IN BEIRUT

TA080706Y Paris AFP in English 0653 GMT 8 Sep 78 TA

[Text] Beirut, 8 Sept (AFP)--Violent overnight fighting between rightwing Christian militia and Syrian units of the Arab Deterrent Force in the south-eastern suburb of Beirut came to a halt towards 7 a.m. today. Shooting began last night and built up steadily until the early hours of this morning when explosions and bursts of heavy machinegun fire echoed throughout Beirut.

Shells rained on the Christian suburbs of 'Ayn ar-Rummanah and Al-Hadath late last night in some of the heaviest fire-fighting of the Lebanese conflict. The Voice of Lebanon radio said several people were wounded during the fighting, two seriously, (?and fire) broke out at several points.

An official of the Arab Deterrent Force said late last night that the Syrian units had been forced to fire back on snipers in 'Ayn ar-Rummanah.

'Ayn ar-Rummanah and Al-Hadath have become the scene of daily clashes between Syrian and Christian militia forces.

The residence of the United States ambassador, located in Al-Nadath, has been hit by (?shells) twice in the last month.

The Christian sections of east Beirut were not hit by last night's shelling, but Syrian artillery was firing from the Rizo Tower located in the middle of eastern Beirut.

VOICE OF LEBANON REPORTS CLASHES BETWEEN PALESTINIANS

NC071157Y Voice of Lebanon [Clandestine] in Arabic to Lebanon 1115 GMT 7 Sep 78 NC

[Text] At 1030 today, clashes were renewed between Palestinian groups in the Tyre area. The clashes, which lasted 90 minutes, were between the PFLP-General Command wing, which is led by Ahmad Jibril, and the other wing, which is led by Abu al-'Abbas.

Preliminary reports did not indicate whether there were losses on either side. It is known that tension has prevailed between the two groups for 3 days following a conflict over a naval position about 10 kilometers north of the port of Tyre.

AFP: ISRAELI ARTILLERY FIRING ON S. LEBANON

TA071309Y Paris AFP in English 1252 GMT 7 Sep 78 TA

[Text] Beirut, Sept 7 (AFP)--Several people were wounded, some seriously, when Christian conservative militia and Israeli artillery shelled An-Nabatiyah, the Palestinian and Lebanese left-wing stronghold in southern Lebanon early today, a well-informed source said here.

According to correspondents in the area, 25 shells from Christian positions and from the Israeli border, 15 kilometers (nine miles) away, landed in the residential quarter of the town.

After the 45-minute bombardment, Israeli jets flew over the area and southern Lebanon's main town, Sidon, causing four sonic booms.

The shelling followed Israeli reports earlier today of a Syrian-backed Palestinian build-up outside the Christian enclave of Marj 'Uyun.

VOICE OF LEBANON ON SITUATION IN SOUTHERN LEBANON

NC0807487 Voice of Lebanon [Clandestine] in Arabic to Lebanon 0515 GMT 8 Sep 78 NC

[Text] Major Haddad, who had expressed fear of a Syrian attack during the Camp David conference, has said that shells were fired last night on the town of Al-Qualylah in the area of Marj 'Uyun, a few kilometers from the Israeli border. As a result the forces of Majors Haddad and Shidyaq were put in a state of emergency.

Also in the south, a Norwegian unit is expected to take up position in a village in the Marj 'Uyun area in accordance with last week's agreement between UNIFIL and the Lebanese forces there. Another Norwegian unit will try to establish a post in the village of Al-Khiyam.

Meanwhile, the Lebanese Army unit is still in Kawkabah awaiting a political solution.

INA: ISRAELI GUNBOATS APPROACH LEBANESE SHORES

JN071516Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 1450 GMT 7 Sep 78 JN

[Text] Beirut, 7 September--Palestinian sources here said that a number of enemy gunboats this afternoon approached the coast opposite the town of Ad-Damur, 20 kilometers south of Beirut. The Palestinian resistance forces confronted the gunboats and forced them to turn back.

Meanwhile, reports from southern Lebanon say that a bomb left over from the Zionist offensive went off today in the town of Barish, near Tyre, killing two civilians and seriously injuring three others.

INA REPORTS ISRAELI PLANES OVERFLYING S. LEBANON

JN071430Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 1345 GMT 7 Sep 78 JN

[Text] Beirut, 7 September--Zionist enemy planes have been overflying southern Lebanon since this morning. An INA correspondent in southern Lebanon reports that eight Zionist military aircraft flew over southern Lebanon this afternoon. Meanwhile, the joint forces of the Lebanese Nationalist Movement and the Palestinian resistance have increased their state of alert as a precaution against any emergency.

PROPOSAL ON DEFENSIVE ALLIANCES WITH USSR REPORTED

LD071351Y Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 7 Sep 78 LD

[Text] Quoting press reports in Beirut, ASSOCIATED PRESS says Syria will propose the setting up of defensive alliances between the states of the Tripoli Charter and the Soviet Union if a joint defense agreement were signed between the United States and the Zionist entity in occupied Palestine.

Two Beirut newspapers today quoted a statement made by 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, the Syrian foreign minister, that he would submit this proposal during his tour of the states of the Tripoli Charter which began yesterday.

Khaddam held talks with Colonel al-Qadhdhafi and left afterward for Algeria to meet President Houari Boumediene.

Certain sources say that it is most likely that the summit conference of the states of the Tripoli Charter will be held in Damascus at the end of this month.

ATH-THAWRAH OUTLINES SECRET AIMS OF CAMP DAVID MEETING

JN080838Y Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0430 GMT 8 Sep 78 JN

[From the press review]

[Text] In its front-page editorial under the headline "Camp David, Between Imposed Secrecy and Exposed Schemes," ATH-THAWRAH writes: Despite the secrecy imposed on the talks of Carter, Anwar as-Sadat and Menahem Begin by the U.S. administration, the information leaked and the statements made by the U.S., Egyptian and Israeli sides provide indications of what the conference may come out with and the results that may be achieved. From the moves made by the parties to the scheme it is clear so far that the Camp David meeting--or rather, conspiracy--has several aims, foremost of which are:

1. The unannounced agreement between As-Sadat and Begin will be ratified;

2. A formula justifying the proposed U.S. military presence in the region will be worked out;

3. As-Sadat, who is not qualified to speak on behalf of the people of Palestine and the Arab nation, including our people in Egypt, will approve U.S. and Israeli extortion in order to prove his loyalty to the imperialist-Zionist scheme and show his readiness to implement part of this scheme at the Arab and African levels;

5. [as heard] The United States, working to rearrange the situation in the region, will review the comprehensive plan as well as its phases with its two allies, As-Sadat and Begin; it will then propose a new method of action after As-Sadat's role has been exposed and he has been besieged and isolated by the Arab masses.

ATH-THAWRAH added: One of the first tasks of the new movement is to work to rescue As-Sadat's regime, give it a new push to continue its role and insure a joint American-Israeli cover for it. These are some of the signs and indications of what the meeting--the conspiracy--at Camp David may produce.

ATH-THAWRAH concluded its commentary by saying: A basic fact must be taken into consideration when trying to work out the equation of struggle in the region: As-Sadat, Carter and Begin do not have the power to cancel this struggle or decide its solution, because the Arab masses know that confronting this new conspiracy, and what is being concocted at Camp David in implementation of this conspiracy, is a basic task that is part of the firm struggle waged by the masses to liberate their territories and restore their rights.

President Hafiz al-Asad expressed our nation's insistence on steadfastness and our capability to confront the conspiracy when he affirmed that we shall not surrender nor waver and that we can foil what we do not want.

KHADDAM CONVEYS MESSAGE TO BOUMEDIENE, LEAVES ALGERIA

JN071949Y Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1915 GMT 7 Sep 78 JN

[Text] Algeria--'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, conveyed a message today from His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad to Algerian President Houari Boumediene dealing with the general situation in the area.

Mr Khaddam left Algeria this afternoon. In a statement prior to his departure, he said: The visit was successful. This is natural since we and Algeria proceed from the same principles and have the same vision regarding all events and developments in the Arab area, particularly pertaining to the Arab-Zionist conflict. Khaddam expressed satisfaction with the results of the meeting he had held with President Houari Boumediene.

On the Camp David conference, Mr Khaddam said: This conference is a link in a chain aimed at entrenching the aggressive Israeli gains, stabbing the Arab nation in the back, and consolidating the aims and objectives of imperialism and Israel.

Concluding his statement, the deputy prime minister and foreign minister said: The normal thing for us to do is to seek together to confront this conference and its results, since it is a link in a chain and the result of the Egyptian president's defeatist policy. This policy has impeded the role of fraternal Egypt and its armed forces, and has caused rifts in the Arab position. This policy and its results are condemned by the Arab masses and the Arab nation.

Returns Home, Reports to Al-Asad

JN080630Y Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 8 Sep 78 JN

[Text] Damascus--President Hafiz al-Asad received 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and minister of foreign affairs, yesterday evening following his return from his trip to Libya and Algeria. During this trip he conveyed two messages from President Hafiz al-Asad to Al-Qadhdhafi and Boumediene.

Khaddam conveyed to President al-Asad messages in reply from Colonel al-Qadhdhafi and President Boumediene. He also submitted to the president a report on his visit to the two fraternal countries.

OFFICIAL MEETS WITH FRG JOURNALISTS PRIOR TO AL-ASAD'S VISIT

JN080729Y Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 8 Sep 78 JN

[Text] Bonn--Dr Adib ad-Dawudi, political adviser to President Hafiz al-Asad, participated in the meeting yesterday between the Syrian information delegation and representatives of the press and information media in Bonn. This meeting was attended by 35 journalists representing the press, radio stations and the three television channels in the Federal Republic of Germany.

In reply to a question on the nature and importance of the visit President Hafiz al-Asad will pay to the Federal Republic of Germany, Dr ad-Dawudi said: This visit comes within the framework of the open-door policy Syria has followed since the beginning of the corrective movement in 1970. We in Syria want to establish good and close ties with the EEC and FRG because we believe that the FRG plays an important role in the market and in Europe in general, and on the world level too.

Dr ad-Dawudi added: We have a just cause that we want to explain to the German people and all peoples of the world. We believe that the German people love justice and hate injustice; we are the same. We want to see injustice ended toward our Arab people and our Palestinian people. In our opinion, this is the just demand of all world peoples.

Asked about the economic requests which will be presented by President Hafiz al-Asad, Dr ad-Dawudi said: President Hafiz al-Asad will not submit any economic requests in Bonn, for these matters are dealt with by the competent ministers of the two countries. He added: We are a developing country and we have large development projects. Therefore, he went on, we have established cooperation with a number of developed countries in order to benefit from their experiences.

In reply to a question on Syria's stand toward the Camp David conference, Dr ad-Dawudi said: Syria does not expect any results concerning the basic cause, namely, the Arab-Israeli struggle. This is for two reasons: First, President as-Sadat goes to the United States without any authorization from the concerned Arab countries or the Palestinian revolution; second, Israeli intransigence is getting stronger day after day. Menahem Begin expressed that intransigence before the convening of Camp David by saying: Israel will not pull out of the occupied Arab territories, but will continue setting up new settlements on them.

OFFICIAL DISCUSSES RELATIONS WITH CUBAN MINISTER

JN071736Y Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 7 Sep 78 JN

[Text] Today Comrade Muhammad Jabir Bajbuj, Ba'th Party assistant regional secretary and chairman of the Afro-Asian Solidarity Committee, received the delegation of the Cuban-Arab Friendship Society headed by Antonio Enrique Lusson Batlle, member of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba [PCC], minister of transportation and chairman of the society, who is currently visiting Syria.

At the meeting, the discussion dealt with current events in the Arab area and the means to develop relations between the two friendly parties and peoples. Comrade Bajbuj spoke about the imperialist-Zionist-conspiratorial plots, which were crowned with As-Sadat's visit to occupied Jerusalem. Comrade Bajbuj said that the Camp David conference is an imperialist-Zionist conspiracy to peddle separate deals and deal a blow to the Arab nation's objectives.

Comrade Bajbuj then spoke about the steadfastness and confrontation front and its role in mobilizing and uniting Arab resources. He also referred to Syria's pioneering and honorable role in Lebanon to prevent the implementation of the partition conspiracy.

The head of the Cuban delegation expressed Cuba's stand in support of Arab rights. He hailed Syria's struggle and its steadfast stand in confronting all imperialist-Zionist machinations.

DELEGATION ADDRESSES INTERNATIONAL PARLIAMENTARY UNION

JN070725Y Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 7 Sep 78 JN

[Text] Bonn--Dr Muhsin Bilal, chairman of the Arab and Foreign Affairs Committee in the People's Assembly, has asserted that the Palestinian issue is the crux of the Middle East dispute.

Addressing the meeting of the International Parliamentary Union in Bonn yesterday, Dr Bilal said that despite all efforts on the Arab and international levels, a just and durable solution for the issue seems quite impossible. He said that it is very likely that the conflict in the Middle East will erupt again. This is due to Israel's intransigence and insistance on keeping the occupied Arab land, Dr Bilal added.

Dr Bilal said: So long as Israel insists on keeping the land and refuses to withdraw, peace will not be restored to the area. Dr Bilal asserted that the expansionist Israeli intentions constitute the real source for permanent concern in the area.

AL-ASAD CONGRATULATES VIETNAMESE PRESIDENT ON NATIONAL DAY

JN011256Y Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 1 Sep 78 JN

[Text] Damascus--On the occasion of the national day of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad has sent a cable to President Ton Duc Thang expressing, on behalf of the Syrian Arab people and in his own name, congratulations and good wishes to the Vietnamese president and the friendly people of Vietnam.

LIBYA

GILASHVILI-LED SOVIET DELEGATION LEAVES AFTER VISIT

LD071310Y Tripoli JANA in Arabic 0915 GMT 7 Sep 78 LD

[Summary] Tripoli--Pavel Gilashvili, deputy chairman of the Supreme Soviet Presidium and chairman of the Supreme Soviet of Georgia, left Tripoli yesterday at the end of his several-day visit to the Jamahiriyah during which he attended the celebrations of the ninth anniversary of the Great 1 September Revolution. In a statement to a JANA correspondent he expressed his appreciation of the great achievements realized by the Libyan people in various fields and his admiration for the revolutionary statement delivered by Al-Qadhdhafi at Al-Khadra Square on 1 September.

MAURITANIA

INTERIOR MINISTER ON COUP, SAHARA PROBLEM

LD072226Y Nouakchott Domestic Service in Arabic 2030 GMT 7 Sep 78 LD

[Excerpts] Interior Minister Maj Jiddou Ould Saleck has presided over a meeting of administrative and military officials in the 13th region. During the meeting, the minister explained the reason that prompted the armed forces to assume their full responsibilities toward history and the people, and to seize authority at a time when our country was about (?to explode). What the armed forced did was only in response to the aspirations of every citizen and an implementation of the desires of all Mauritanians.

After explaining the structure of authority in the country and the way power is exercised, the minister pointed out that Mauritania, even during the rule of the now-defunct regime, had not prepared for any (?war). He added: The blind operation into which our country was led was not prepared for materially, humanly or morally. The conflict among the big powers and political influence and interests are what embroiled our country in the accursed snare of war.

The defunct regime did not have the courage or the necessary sincerity of conscience to shoulder its responsibilities at the right moment and to realize the evil consequences of a war, which is not only materially costly, but also had no reason or supporting argument behind it. The blood ties between the Mauritanians and the Saharans, the minister added, can under no circumstances permit the eruption of a ferocious war between them because such a war will not serve either side or both of them.

Mauritania is a small country with a weak economy. We are forced to deal with the burdens of defending ourselves, national unity, and developing our country. Naturally, it is not possible to achieve these objectives through military and political plots [passage indistinct].

The Sahara is a country that existed before the problem arose and it will continue to exist after it has been solved. If the solution to this problem is to be attributed to us to a great extent, it will be because we have worked and will do all we can to establish an honorable, just and lasting peace in this area. Mauritania's determination to stop the war is only equalled by its determination to defend itself whenever its sovereignty is threatened, the minister said. He added: Our quest for peace does not at all mean that we are bowing to anyone, or that we have abandoned our responsibilities. The heroic feats of our army and people provide a sufficient reply to such allegations. What is important is that we are seeking peace and that we will talk to all who have any rights and to all who can help to stop the war.

In this respect, the minister assured his listeners that the future abounds with hope, though the final solution is not yet apparent. However, it will not be an unannounced solution [passage ind'stinct].

MOROCCO

BOUCETTA RETURNS FOLLOWING FOREIGN TOUR

LD071455Y Rabat MAP in French 1100 GMT 7 Sep 78 LD

[Excerpt] Rabat--M'hamed Boucetta, Moroccan minister of state for foreign affairs and cooperation, returned to Morocco on the evening of 6 September from a tour which took him to Kenya, Egypt, Sudan and Saudi Arabia.

WESTERN SAHARA

SDAR ISSUES COMMUNIQUE ON OPERATIONS AGAINST MOROCCO

LD011304Y Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1100 GMT 1 Sep 78 LD

[Excerpts] The Saharan Defense Ministry issued a communique yesterday on the latest military operations by the Saharan forces against the invading royalist forces.

The communique stressed that fighters of the Saharan People's Liberation Army [ALPS] continued their armed attacks against the enemy forces in the occupied regions of the Saharan republic and in southern Morocco, where severe blows were dealt to the invading forces deep in their positions.

The communique added that the ALPS units recently attacked Tuisgvi Remz and the enemy's barracks in the occupied areas in Tifaritti, Semara and Bir Ensaran. In Semara all positions and installations of the occupiers were subjected to intense shelling in which heavy weapons were used, registering direct hits on a number of enemy targets and killing 10 Moroccan soldiers in the operation. In Tifariti, the enemy suffered heavy losses during attacks on successive days by the Saharan fighters, who occupied a forward position and captured six soldiers. In Bir N'zaran, the liberation forces attacked a royalist army post on 28 August after the series of assaults directed against the post earlier. The operation resulted in 20 Moroccan casualties.

Further Report

LD062327Y Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 2200 GMT 6 Sep 78 LD

[Summary] The Saharan Defense Ministry issued another military communique in which it announced that on 31 August and 2 September the Saharan fighters carried out fresh operations against Moroccan forces. On 31 August the Saharan revolutionaries shelled the positions and establishments of the enemy in Semara and Amgala for several hours. In Semara various targets were destroyed and a number of buildings set on fire. Four Moroccan soldiers were killed and more than 10 seriously wounded. In Amgala the revolutionaries destroyed two pieces of artillery and killed five soldiers. On 27 August the Saharan forces also attacked a Moroccan unit in southern Morocco, inflicting heavy losses in men and materiel. During this attack the fighters destroyed two enemy vehicles, killed six soldiers and wounded about 15 others.

FIRING CONTINUES IN S. LEBANON, ALLON COMMENTS

TA071740Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1705 GMT 7 Sep 78 TA

[From the Evening Newsreel]

[Excerpts] Syrian shelling of the Christian concentrations in Lebanon continues. Light exchanges took place on the southern front as well today. Our correspondent in the north, Yehezqel Hame'iri, reports: [begin recording]

The forces of the militia and the Phalangists in southern Lebanon are on alert. As long as the Camp David summit is in session, their commanders say, we are prepared for any surprise. We will not allow the Syrians, or their delegates, the terrorists, to surprise us. Indeed, the civilians and militarymen in the south are prepared and alert.

At about 0800 today the terrorists directed artillery fire toward Marj 'Uyun and Al-Qualay'ah. A short while ago two rounds were fired in the direction of this region. The forces of the militias and the Phalangists returned fierce artillery fire this morning. These exchanges, the Phalangist commanders believe, are aimed at testing Israel's reaction: Will it continue to stand by the south despite the Camp David summit? One way or the other, Israel is also concerned about the spread of the Syrian offensive toward the south.

In the afternoon MK Yig'al Allon visited the Lebanese border. MK Allon serves as the head of the subcommittee for Lebanon affairs of the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Security Committee. Allon had a long talk with Majors Shidyaq and Haddad. Allon again promised Israel's support in guaranteeing the safety and welfare of the residents of southern Lebanon, and the continuation of the regular operation of the good fence. If the Lebanese Government demands an immediate withdrawal of the Syrian forces from Lebanese territory and the removal of the terrorists, I will recommend to the government and the Knesset to renew the regular activity of the joint Israeli-Lebanese Armistice Committee, Allon told Haddad and Shidyaq. In a talk with a Lebanese journalist whom he met on his tour along the border, MK Allon expressed his surprise at the fact that the Lebanese Government is trying to impose its control on the south of all places, on a front on which quiet prevails and whose combatants and residents fight bravely for Lebanese sovereignty, while the other parts of Lebanon are torn and controlled either by the Syrians or the terrorists. Haddad and Shidyaq expressed to Allon their satisfaction with Israel's aid and its consistent support despite all pressures. They leveled sharp criticism at the U.S. position. Allon promised the commanders of the enclaves that Israel's firmness regarding Lebanon will not be affected by the Camp David talks, neither during the talks nor after them. [end recording]

ERSKINE OPPOSES USING FORCE AGAINST CHRISTIANS

TA071051Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 7 Sep 78 TA

[Text] The commander of UNIFIL, Major General Erskine, says he is firmly opposed to suggestions that his men should attack Christian militias in southern Lebanon. He believed the problem should be tackled by political rather than military means.

In a letter to the Security Council, the Lebanese Government called for an immediate and candid assessment of what has been achieved by UNIFIL. The Lebanese ambassador to the United Nations complained that UNIFIL has been able to deploy in all of the areas because of what was termed obstruction by Israeli patrols along the border and Christian forces in the enclaves. [sentence as heard]

General Erskine said it would make no sense to send his force, which was lightly armed, against militias equipped with tanks and heavy artillery. It would require a completely new mandate, more men and more weapons. Erskine also said that 90 percent of the refugees who had fled south during the initial strike into Lebanon had returned to their homes. The Lebanese Government was in too much of a hurry, and instead of criticizing UNIFIL, should give it their maximum cooperation.

IDF CONCENTRATIONS ALONG GOLAN, JORDAN DENIED

TA081011Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1000 GMT 8 Sep 78 TA

[Text] Military sources denied that Israel is concentrating forces in the Golan and along the River Jordan. Rumors about the troop concentrations came from Amman this morning, from travelers who had come there from Judaea and Samaria. The military sources emphasized that there is no unusual activity along the cease-fire lines with Jordan and with Syria.

Military correspondent Roni Dani'el points out that the Jordan Valley serves as an IDF training area throughout the year, and the travelers may have arrived at a wrong conclusion in view of an exercise in the region.

UNOFFICIAL VIEWS ON CABINET COMPOSITION AFTER DMC SPLIT

TA071148Y Tel Aviv HA'AREZ in Hebrew 7 Sep 78 p 1 TA

[By 'Uzzi Benziman]

[Text] A proposal to give the MAFDAL another portfolio and allow the three Democratic Movement ministers to keep their portfolios has been discussed in governmental circles in the last few days against the background of the split in the DMC and the expected resignation of Me'ir 'Amit from the cabinet.

According to this proposal, the number of cabinet ministers would not change. Instead of 'Amit there would be another MAFDAL minister without portfolio, the Liberal and Herut factions in the Likud would be compensated by two of their present ministers being given the communications and transport portfolios, while the La'am faction would be compensated by keeping the health portfolio in the hands of Minister Shostak without it being linked to the social betterment portfolio (held by Dr Yisra'el Katz from the Democratic Movement), as was initially the plan.

The proposal was unofficially discussed by several personalities from the Likud and the Democratic Movement, but is only a possibility.

MK Yehuda Ben-Me'ir, who, according to this plan, might be the fourth MAFDAL minister, yesterday told the HA'AREZ correspondent that he objected to the idea because in his opinion there is no need to add more ministers to the cabinet and that all that must be done is to limit the number of ministers from the Democratic Movement from three to two, in accordance with that faction's parliamentary power.

POST EDITOR ON QUESTION OF HUSAYN'S ROLE

TA080726Y Jerusalem POST in English 8 Sep 78 p 16 TA

[By Anan Safadi]

[Text] As Carter, Begin and As-Sadat bathe in the glare of international publicity now focusing on the Camp David summit, few people seem to have noticed that the diminutive king of Jordan is casting a giant shadow on the proceedings.

The three leaders did not after all, go to their momentous meeting merely to resolve Israeli-Egyptian differences over Sinai; nor are they meeting just to discuss means of helping the U.S. safeguard its interests in the desert peninsula. They came together mainly to work out a draft settlement for the thorny issue of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip which would enable Jordan to join the current peace negotiations.

The participants in Maryland appear to agree that Husayn is the key to the success of the peace process which As-Sadat launched with his pilgrimage to Jerusalem last November. They have obviously concluded that negotiations between Israel and Egypt towards a durable peace in the region cannot be furthered in the absence of Husayn, who is in a unique strategic position vis-a-vis Israel, the Arab world and the Palestinian majority residing in Jordan, the West Bank and Gaza.

Evidently aware of the Camp David quest to have him join the negotiations, Husayn this week flew to a destination abroad. Officially, he was said to have gone to Britain on a private visit.

However, Amman's assertions that Husayn was on a vacation with his new American wife--Queen Nur, nee Liza Halaby--were dismissed by observers who spotted two of the king's top political aides accompanying the royal couple at Amman airport on the eve of the Camp David summit. These were Sherif Abdul-Hamid Sharaf and Amer Khammash.

This does not necessarily mean that Husayn was not in Britain, or that he was within spitting distance of the Camp David summit, but there seems to be no doubt that he and the participants in the summit are maintaining contact--close contact.

Husayn is known to have made three major demands in the form of preconditions to his active participation in the current peace process:

A clear-cut Israeli undertaking to return eventually to the pre-1967 frontiers on all fronts. The Jordanians do not care how such a withdrawal is phased once Israel agrees to the pullback in principle and its applicability to the West Bank and Gaza. And Jordan will agree to minor changes in the 1967 lines provided that these are made reciprocally.

An Israeli acknowledgment of the ultimate right of the Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza to self-determination, an exercise the Jordanians visualize being conducted under U.N. auspices at the end of a five-year transitional administration. The point Jordan makes here is that it wants the West Bankers and Gazans to decide themselves on the shape of their political future, and especially on the scope of their link with Amman.

A definitive statement by the Carter administration on the U.S.'s own concept of a Middle East settlement and of the American role in the peacemaking process. The Jordanians have made no secret of their disappointment with what they view as Washington's indecision, as well as its going back on Carter's "Palestinian Homeland" pledge and Brzezinski's call for Israeli withdrawal to only slightly modified 1967 lines.

Husayn, according to a confidant, has been emphasizing that he wants the parties to deal with the totality of the Middle East problem "through substantive concessions and not semantic formulas."

It is here, the source points out, that Husayn finds himself in conflict with As-Sadat, whose overtures to Israel the Jordanian monarch has nevertheless discreetly applauded without alienating Cairo's hardline adversaries.

Indications from Amman have been that the Jordanians suspect As-Sadat of pursuing an ultimately separate settlement with Israel through a "fixing of words" on other fronts.

The message from the Jordanian capital was that Husayn would be reluctant to go along with undetailed formulas such as the U.S.-Egyptian Aswan Declaration, which called for an overall settlement based on peaceful coexistence, Israeli withdrawal on all fronts, and the resolution of the Palestinian problem in all its aspects.

While stressing that they would not settle for mere declarations of principles, the Jordanians made certain to reject what they referred to as "tokens of intent," especially in the West Bank and Gaza.

Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan's recent signals of readiness to modify Israel's position with regard to those two territories have been dismissed in Amman as attempts to apply "cosmetic treatment" to Begin's 26-point autonomy plan.

The Jordanians pointedly stress that they turned down this plan after having failed to receive any assurances that Premier Begin would budge on basic principles--which Husayn interpreted as a denial of "both the concept of withdrawal and that of self-determination."

The Jordanians believe that they are entitled to a more generous offer should the parties now seeking a settlement insist on Amman's involvement in the peace-making process. Otherwise they see no reason why they would step forward in defiance of the 1974 Rabat Arab Summit, which recognized the PLO, rather than Jordan, as the sole spokesman for the Palestinians--particularly those living in the West Bank and Gaza.

Jordan also hints that it would be less than willing to risk provoking Syria--whose "brotherly" attitude at present is the prime vindication of Husayn's fence-sitting.

As far as Jordan is concerned, it is Syria and not the West Bank that helps it to stabilize its politics, security and economy. Husayn therefore sees no incentive for switching directions--unless, says the confidant, the king feels called upon to "repossess the sacred soil."

At any rate, an Israel-Jordan compromise would have to take into account the most elementary rights of the Palestinian Arabs.

Israelis who voice the "who needs Jordan?" argument may have a realistic view of the high price Husayn is asking for his involvement. The question is, what is the alternative? The answer is, talking to the PLO, or stagnation (which some amateur politicians think could be broken by an Israeli thrust to topple Husayn and help establish a Palestinian state on the East Bank.

The issue at stake for Israel is indeed that of survival, as it is for Jordan, whose existence no longer concerns only the Hashemite dynasty but the entire Arab conservative camp.

ISRAELI PROPOSAL ON WEST BANK REPORTED

TA071953Y Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 7 Sep 78 TA

[Text] One of the plans discussed in the contacts held before the convening of the Camp David summit deals with the distribution among three bodies of control over Judaea and Samaria during the interim period. This plan was intended to avoid the disagreement regarding the sovereignty in the region by means of a partnership formula.

Our correspondent for Arab affairs, Ehud Ya'ari, says that one of the motives behind this plan is the desire to bring about the integration of Jordan into the negotiations. For this reason it is possible that it will be proposed to King Husayn to undertake the affairs of domestic security and police, emigration, education and other things during the transitional period. The local administration will be in the hands of the Palestinian council mentioned in Israel's autonomy plan, while Israel will continue to maintain an army in the region according to a predetermined formula.

Our correspondent says that is the core of a concept that, if it is in fact accepted, will necessitate detailed negotiations. Informed sources link Husayn's trip to London to his desire to follow the developments at Camp David from a more convenient observation post and so that he may be consulted during the deliberations.

ISRAEL, U.S. PREPARE DRAFT DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES

TA071110Y Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebre · 7 Sep 78 pp 1, 2 TA

[By Dani'el Bloch]

[Text] In the preliminary talks held before the Camp David summit between Israel and the United States, a possible draft declaration of principles between Israel and Egypt has been formulated.

The contacts on the issue were held mainly between Israeli Ambassador to the United States Simcha Dinitz and the U.S. President's national security adviser, Professor Brzezinski, and Secretary of State Cyrus Vance.

The main point remaining to be discussed between President Carter and Prime Minister Menahem Begin is the manner in which UN Resolution 242 will be mentioned as pertaining to all the fronts. In the preliminary talks, the parties have come toward each other greatly on formulating the Palestinian issue, and Israel has expressed its willingness to begin discussing the future of the sovereignty over Judaea, Samaria and Gaza even before the 5 years end. The United States regards the autonomy plan as a basis for an arrangement for 5 years, and even for a longer period than that, if Israel concedes on the issue of sovereignty.

During those talks, Professor Brzezinski expressed the full support of the United States for an IDF presence in the West Bank even after the 5 years are over, without a time limit.

It seems that the United States has been convinced during those preliminary contacts that there is great willingness to show flexibility on the part of Prime Minister Menahem Begin and that the Israeli delegation has been given a wide range of freedom of maneuvering on behalf of the cabinet and according to the considerations of the prime minister and Ministers Dayan and Weizman.

CURRENT VIEWS, ATMOSPHERE IN WEST BANK NOTED

TA071625Y Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1510 GMT 7 Sep 78 TA

[From the Afternoon Newsreel]

[Text] Quiet prevailed today in Judaea, Samaria, the Gaza Strip and East Jerusalem despite the calls from Syria for demonstrations and strikes against Camp David. Correspondent Mikha'el Maymon reports on the mood and atmosphere prevailing in Judaea and Samaria: [begin recording]

It seems that the calm atmosphere of 'Id al-Fitr has continued to prevail in the territories ever since the opening of the Camp David summit. The excited calls by the PLO and Syrian radios to idle commerce and hold demonstrations have not been complied with. Except for a few slogans, which appeared in Hebron and Nabulus, condemning President as-Sadat and opposing the conference, no distrubances have been noted in the territories yesterday and today. Is this oriental fatalism, confusion or hidden hopes? It is impossible to tell. An important Ramallah physician, asked about the chances of the conference, replied that he is still pessimistic. This is a reply that characterizes the residents' feeling about Camp David.

The local leadership and press are divided in their reactions. The pro-Jordan AL-QUDS highlights the call from Camp David for prayers for peace. However, in its editorial the paper notes that prayer alone is not sufficient. AL-FAJR, in contrast, reports in its headlines about contacts for the convening of a countersummit of the Arab rejectionist front and devotes sizable space to the translation of the editorials of the Israeli press. The extremist, pro-PLO ASH-SHA'B analyzes the chances of the summit in its editorial and concludes that As-Sadat will not gain more than an insignificant partial settlement or a meaningless declaration of principles. Two local personages taking part yesterday in the Israeli-Palestinian dialog conducted by the (?new outlook) in Jerusalem also expressed opposing views of the conference. Bethlehem Mayor Elyas Frayj is very pessimistic about its results, since, according to him, Begin's declarations do not indicate any intention of changing his positions. Attorney 'Aziz (Shihada) from Ramallah shows cautious optimism, like Kissinger as he puts it. According to him, the long isolation of the leaders together may have positive results provided that they exercise wisdom. [end recording]

WEST BANK MAYORS DISCUSS CAMP DAVID

TA071128Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 7 Sep 78 TA

[Text] According to correspondent Pinhas 'Inbari, several mayors from Judaea and Samaria met in Ramallah the day before yesterday to discuss political issues and, chiefly, how to react to the Camp David conference.

The military government forbids mayors to convene or to engage in political activities. Not long ago, the military government announced that it would allow the mayors to meet and discuss municipal issues. No request has been received yet.

GOVERNMENT IMPOSES MARTIAL LAW IN TEHRAN, 11 OTHER CITIES

LD080944Y Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0300 GMT 8 Sep 78 LD

[Text] Dear listeners, please pay attention: In accordance with a government statement endorsed by the Council of Ministers, martial law has been imposed in Tehran and 11 other cities in the country for a period of 6 months. The statement emphasizes that the government, in order to safeguard the national existence and unity, to better secure the public welfare, to preserve a healthy pace of economic development and to guarantee genuine freedoms, has imposed martial law in the cities of Tehran, Karaj, Qazvin, Qom, Mashhad, Tabriz, Ahvaz, Abadan, Esfahan, Shiraz, Kazerun and Jahrom for a period of 6 months. The text of the government statement is as follows:

Following the government declaration of 6 September 1978 that people should refrain from holding assemblies in public thoroughfares, it was noted that those who are acting within the course of an antipeople plot, despite the reminders issued by the great religious authorities and ulemas aimed at safeguarding tranquillity and refraining from engendering riots and disturbances, by ignoring the announced regulations in the government declaration embarked on staging extensive demonstrations and riots and by issuing most offensive slogans which are strictly at variance with the country's constitution, resorted to lawbreaking and disrupting public order, and halted the normal life of the people, day-to-day economic activities, and engendered fear and anxiety among the [word indistinct] and citizens of the country. No zealous imam or patriotic Iranian can tolerate this.

Although it was easy for the security forces to carry out the provisions of the law and to disperse the subversives--through having accurate information about their evil intentions--their unlawful and antinational demonstrations were tolerated only in order to prevent bloodshed, and the maximum leniency was practiced. However, due to accurate information about the roots of this deep plot--which is daily acquiring new dimensions as a result of foreign money, foreign designs and alien provocations--and also due to being informed of the manner of armed aggression carried out by terrorists and subversive groups which has taken shape against the country's freedom and independence in order to crush the Iranian revolution and to halt the realm's progress; and since the individual and social rights of the toiling and noble people of Iran are endangered, the government--with the full conviction it is implementing the constitution and the principle of national freedoms, of which the Iranian legislature is the manifestation and center; with a firm resolve and a wakeful conscience and in the name of the entire people; with the aim of safeguarding national existence and unity, and in order to have an opportunity to act and take the necessary measures toward better guaranteeing the public welfare, safeguarding the pace of healthy economic development, speedily and decisively carrying out administrative reforms, securing social justice, fighting corruption and the corrupt, guaranteeing genuine freedoms toward eliminating the causes of the people's dissatisfaction and putting an end to public anxiety in a calm way and with effective efforts--has no alternative but to impose martial law on the cities of Tehran, Karaj, Qazvin, Qom, Mashhad, Tabriz, Ahvaz, Abadan, Esfahan, Shiraz, Kazerun and Jahrom for a period of 6 months.

Communique on Martial Law, Curfew

LD080758Y Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0400 GMT 8 Sep 78 LD

[Communique No 1 issued by the military governor of Tehran and district]

[Text] The Imperial Iranian Government, in order to secure the welfare of the people and to safeguard order, has announced martial law regulations for a period of 6 months in certain cities in the country beginning at 0600 Friday, 17 Shahrivar 1357 [8 September 1978], and I have been appointed military governor of Tehran and district. Therefore, I expect all respectable people of Tehran and district to refrain from carrying out any action contrary to martial law regulations and ordinances. Those who infringe the regulations will be prosecuted in accordance with the law. Curfew hours will be from 2100 to 0500.

[Signed] the military governor of Tehran and district, General Oveysi

TROOPS, DEMONSTRATORS CLASH IN TEHRAN AFTER DECREE

LD081056Y Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1000 GMT 8 Sep 78 LD

[Text] Today Tehran witnessed violent demonstrations, and in a few parts of the city these ended in clashes between security officers and demonstrators. Regrettably, a great deal of destruction was left behind and a number of people were killed and wounded.

The violent demonstrations in Tehran took place in spite of a government announcement that in order to prevent subversive measures, assemblies and demonstrations should take place only with police permission. However, since this government recommendation was not observed by certain demonstrating groups, the government, emphasizing that the people in the country were in danger, announced today that martial law regulations had been put into effect.

The demonstrations started from the eastern and southeastern areas of Tehran at 0830 today and soon became violent. One group, which was moving toward Zhaleh Square while chanting threatening slogans, came face to face with security officers. The demonstrators ignored the repeated warnings by officers advising them to disperse and they clashed with the security officers.

In the meantime, several other groups started moving from various parts of Tehran. The reports received so far speak of violence, sabotage, arson and clashes between the demonstrators and security officers at various points.

According to these reports, smoke rising from fires hangs over some avenues on the demonstrators' routes. The reports say that at first the security officers were forced to use tear gas in order to disperse the demonstrators. But as the violent clashes increased, they resorted to firing over the demonstrators heads. The wave of demonstrations then spread to a few other regions, including Shahnaz Square, Narmak, 'Eshratabad, Khorasan Square and Rey Square.

According to reports by our correspondents, in the course of the violent demonstrations in Tehran today a number of people were wounded, and these people were immediately moved to nearby hospitals. So far no official report has been published about the number of those wounded and killed during today's demonstrations.

AFP: 10 Killed

GW080646Y Hong Kong AFP in English 0642 GMT 8 Sep 78 OW

[Text] Tehran, Sep. 8 (AFP)--About ten people were killed when Iranian troops opened fire on demonstrators this morning in Zhaleh Square here, witnesses said.

Communique No 2

LD081141Y Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1000 GMT 8 Sep 78 LD

[Communique No 2 issued by the military governor of Tehran and district]

[Text] As a result of long years of service within the Imperial Armed Forces, my special spiritual and moral attributes are clear to most of my dear compatriots. With the decisiveness essential to a soldier and in order to observe my sacred pledge and covenant to safeguard the independence of the realm, the constitution and the imperial order of our dear country, Iran, and also to guard the holy religion of Islam, to which I swore in the presence of the glorious Word of Allah [the Koran] and the glorious flag of Iran, I will strive to my last breath and will remain determined to carry out the duty of the military governor of Tehran and district. I am strongly bound to the sacred manifestations of this oath and I will not spare any effort or sacrifice to return order and tranquillity to the capital, because order is essential to a quieter life for the respectable citizens. It goes without saying that the enlightened, patriotic and pious citizens and people of Iran will help me to achieve this by their cooperation.

Although I am confident that I will succeed in establishing order, I still expect the guardians of families to guide their children and members of their families in this direction by explaining the necessary facts to them. It is axiomatic that those who infringe the provisions of the military governorate will be dealt with severely in accordance with the law.

[Signed] The military governor of Tehran and district, Gen Gholam Ali Oveysi.

RELIGIOUS LEADER IN QOM WARNS GOVERNMENT OF DISCONTENT

LD071735Y Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1600 GMT 7 Sep 78 LD

[Text] His Grace Ayatollah Seyyed Kazem Shari'atmadari [senior Moslem religious leader, resident in Qom], in an interview with the international news agency TELEPRESS, commented on the disorders which occurred during the demonstrations on 'Id al-Fitr, the end of Ramadan. He said: The demonstrations we ordered were meant to be orderly and peaceful. However, the current demonstrations belong to the extremists.

Commenting on the reasons behind the demonstrations, he said: The reasons are lengthy--that is, the discontent is widespread and has existed for 10 to 20 years. However, during the past 7 to 8 months the government has resorted to certain things which caused this discontent to explode.

Referring to the involvement of foreign elements in the demonstrations, his grace said: It is possible that foreigners or aliens are taking advantage of these demonstrations. However, they are not behind them, but are only making use of them.

The interviewer said: The religious extremists in Iran have taken a position against Western civilization, for instance by throwing acid at women.

His grace said: These elements are not religious extremists, but a handful of ignorant people who either themselves or others are influencing these individuals. [sentence as heard]

Asked whether there is a solution to the existing discontent, his grace said: Yes, there is; but the point is whether these extremists will accept the solution. The majority of the people do accept the atterances of religious authorities, but there are a handful of extremists who ought to adhere to them as well, so that the situation can be resolved.

Commenting on the change of government and the new cabinet, His Grace Shari'atmadari said: It must be given time. We shall give it 1 or 2 months; if it manages to put things right, eliminate the discontent and make the people happy, so much the better. Otherwise, this government, too, must be removed.

Alluding to the tragic Rex Cinema incident in Abadan, his grace said: We think this was a tragic incident, a big scourge. Expressing his sorrow, he said: It is apparent that local officials neglected their duties; there is no doubt about that. However, as far as the real culprit is concerned, we are trying to find him; we will seek to identify him.

FORMER PRIME MINISTER AMINI ON CURRENT DISCONTENT

LD071804Y Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1600 GMT 7 Sep 78 LD

[Text] In an interview with ETTELA'AT on Iran's political changes, Dr Ali Amini, the former prime minister, said: "Nowadays, whenever we talk to those groups and individuals who have the slightest interest in the homeland, Iran, and the heritage left us, we note signs of anxiety and panic in their remarks, eyes and behavior."

Dr Amini continued: "These days we are witnessing two trends: the first aimed at safeguarding democracy, establishment of the constitution's progressive principles, and at safeguarding the religion of the country while advocating a political struggle within a legal and logical framework; and the second trend, a momentum, which because of earlier reactions, contains foreign elements."

Referring to improper economic policies and an unfair distribution of wealth as well as the spread of a middleman system in many professions, Dr Amini said: "What we are witnessing today as a symbol of public discontent is a direct result of erratic economic planning during the past several years. Such planning has led to the emergence of inflation, a rise in the cost of living, economic imbalance within various classes in society, and damage to agriculture resulting in a diminishing agricultural output and the migration of farmers seeking greater wealth or the sale of agricultural land."

Dr Amini added: "A healthy democratic climate must be created in the country which must meet people's needs in accordance with the law, without resorting to anarchy."

JAPAN'S FUKUDA DISCUSSES LIQUEFIED NATURAL GAS PURCHASE

LD062031Y Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1600 GMT 6 Sep 78 LD

[Excerpt] Japanese Prime Minister Takeo Fukuda, who is visiting Iran, had talks today with Prime Minister Ja'far Sharif-Emami. Following this meeting the first round of talks between the Iranian and Japanese prime ministers began. The following also took part: Iran's ministers of foreign affairs, commerce, economy and finance, and industries and mines.

It is reported that the agreement on the sale of gas to Japan for a period of 20 years was among the subjects discussed. One of the important projects studied during these talks was the agreement on the sale of Iranian liquefied natural gas to Japan. A spokesman for the National Iranian Gas Company [NIGC] said: On the basis of this agreement some 400 million cubic feet of gas daily will be exported to Japan. The period of the agreement is 20 years from the date of utilization, the preliminaries on the working of which have already begun. The cost of the project's installations is in the region of 714 million. The gas required by this project, which is the equivalent of 2.8 million tons, is to be obtained from the (?Pars) gas fields in the Persian Gulf, drilled by the NIGC.

Meets With Shah

LD071218Y Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1000 GMT 7 Sep 78 LD

[Text] At noon today, the shah received Japanese Prime Minister Takeo Fukuda and the delegation accompanying him in Sa'dabad Palace. Prime Minister Ja'far Sharif-Emami and Minister of Foreign Affairs Amir Khosrow Afshar also had the honor of being present during the audience.

At the same time, the wife of the Japanese prime minister also had the honor of being received by her imperial majesty the shahbanu.

The Japanese prime minister and his wife had luncheon in the company of their imperial majesties.

Holds Talks With Premier

LD071850Y Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1600 GMT 7 Sep 78 LD

[Excerpt] The Japanese prime minister this evening held a second round of talks with his Iranian counterpart at the latter's office. Present at this round of talks on the Iranian side were the ministers of mines and industry, trade, economic affairs and finance, as well as under secretaries of trade, and foreign affairs, and Baqer Mostofi, chairman of the board of directors and managing director of the national petrochemical industry. Present on the Japanese side were the Japanese foreign minister, the Japanese ambassador to the imperial court, and a number of senior economic and political figures who are accompanying the Japanese prime minister on his visit to Iran.

At the end of the talks between the two prime ministers, a joint communique was published simultaneously in Tehran and Tokyo, and the Japanese prime minister then took part in a press conference.

Views Direct Oil Sales

OW072336Y Hong Kong AFP in English 2317 GMT 7 Sep 78 OW

[Excerpt] Tehran, Sep 7 (AFP)--Japan today reacted favourably to an Iranian request for direct oil sales through the National Iranian Oil Company (NIOC) provided the Iranian oil improves in quality and the price goes down, Japanese sources said here.

On the eve of his departure from Tehran after a four-day stay here, Prime Minister Takeo Fukuda said that the reason why Japan had been using less Iranian oil than before was that his country needed more light crude than the heavy variety mainly produced by Iran. The price here was also higher, he added. His talks with Shah Mohammed Reza Pahlavi and Prime Minister Ja'far Sharif-Emami were "useful and productive," he told newsmen on the eve of his departure tomorrow for Shiraz on his way to Qatar.

As a large "economic power," Japan was anxious to look for "oil substitutes" and would consider sympathetically Iran's wish to sell more processed or semi-processed oil than at present, Mr Fukuda said.

Communique on Visit

LD081046Y Tehran PARS in English 0712 GMT 8 Sep 78 LD

[Text] Tehran, 7 Sep, PANA (PARS News Agency)--The following communique was issued simultaneously in Tehran and Tokyo today:

1--At the invitation of His Excellency Ja'far Sharif-Emami, prime minister of Iran, His Excellency Takeo Fukuda, prime minister of Japan, paid an official visit to Iran from September 5 to 8, 1978. His Excellency Sunao Sonoda, minister of foreign affairs of Japan, accompanied Prime Minister Fukuda. Mrs Takeo Fukuda also joined in this visit.

2--During the visit, the prime minister of Japan was received by His Imperial Majesty Mohammed Reza Pahlavi Aryamehr, shahanshah of Iran.

3--His Excellency Ja'far Sharif-Emami, prime minister of Iran, and His Excellency Takeo Fukuda, prime minister of Japan, exchanged views on mutual relations between Iran and Japan as well as on important international issues in a spirit of friendship and cordiality.

4--In exchanging views on the current international situation, the two sides reaffirmed that the basic standing of their two countries' foreign policy, which aims at making efforts towards the maintenance of world peace and security and the development of friendly relations with all countries, is identical.

5--Both sides the importance of [as received] maintenance of peace and stability in the Indian Ocean and in this context they affirmed their support for the recognition of the Indian Ocean as a zone of peace in accordance with the United Nations Resolution 2832.

The prime minister of Iran, referring to the economic importance of the Persian Gulf from an international point of view, through which the greater part of energy requirements of the industrialised countries, including Japan, are supplied, stated that the Imperial Government of Iran maintains that it is the responsibility of the littoral states to maintain peace and security in this sensitive part of the world, and that this region should be free from foreign interference.

The prime minister of Japan stated that the Persian Gulf has great economic importance to Japan and showed his full understanding to the statement made by the prime minister of Iran.

6--The two sides expressed identical views on the situation of East Asia. The prime minister of Iran expressed appreciation for the efforts made by Japan toward cooperation and maintenance of peace in that region.

7--Reviewing the Middle East situation, both sides agreed that in order to achieve a just and lasting peace, it is necessary for the United Nations Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338 to be applied totally in all their provisions, and the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people under the United Nations Charter to be recognised.

8--The two prime ministers exchanged views on the recovery of world economy, the stabilisation of international currency situation, and the establishment of a new international economic order. They agreed that both countries should continue to cooperate as far as possible for the stabilisation and improvement of the world economic situation.

9--The two prime ministers expressed satisfaction with the mutual relations which exist between Iran and Japan and which have expanded considerably in all directions.

10--Both sides agreed to continue their close cooperation in the field of export of oil from Iran to Japan and in the field of transfer of technology from Japan to Iran.

Both sides, reaffirming that it is essential to promote scientific and technical cooperation especially with a view to discovering oil substitutes for the production of energy, agreed that both sides should constantly consult each other in the interest of further economic, scientific, and technical cooperation. They also agreed that trade between the two countries including export of Iranian intermediate manufactured goods to Japan should be enhanced for mutual benefit.

11--Noting that Iran and Japan possess age old traditional cultures, and at the same time aspire to modern civilisation, the two sides recognised the necessity of expanding mutual cultural exchanges. They agreed to hold serious consultations with each other with a view to enhancing the cultural relations between the two countries, and to take measures including the establishment of courses at their universities for the conduct of Iranian and Japanese studies and the promotion of joint research on the history of East-West cultural interchange in Asia.

12--In view of the fact that the year 1980 falls on the 100th anniversary of the visit to Iran of Japan's first official representative, the two prime ministers agreed to organise appropriate activities to commemorate the event both in Iran and Japan.

13--His Excellency Ja'far Sharif-Emami noted that the visit of His Excellency Takeo Fukuda to Iran has greatly contributed to the promotion of further mutual understanding, to the strengthening of mutual friendly relations, and to the development of cooperation between Iran and Japan.

14--His Excellency Takeo Fukuda expressed his appreciation of the warm hospitality extended to him and his party during the visit.

15--His Excellency Takeo Fukuda extended an official invitation to His Excellency Ja'far Sharif-Emami to visit Japan. The invitation was accepted with great pleasure. The exact date of the visit will be fixed through diplomatic channels.

SCIENCE, EDUCATION MINISTER INTRODUCES NEW APPOINTEES TO SHAH

LD061506Y Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1000 GMT 6 Sep 78 LD

[Excerpts] The shah received Mr Hushang Nahavandi, minister of science and higher education, at Sadabad palace this morning. The minister of science and higher education, in his report to the shah, alluded to the independence of universities and the need for the participation of academic cadre in university affairs, and communicated the new decisions of the Ministry of Science and Higher Education to the shah. Mr Nahavandi said: Immediately after the resumption of the session of the Majlis, the bill on the independence of universities will be presented to the legislature. This bill will include the following matters: The board of trustees of universities will be composed of several credible academic and social figures, representatives of the academic cadre, and one representative from the administrative cadre of universities. These committees will conduct, with complete discretion, all university affairs, especially financial affairs and matters pertaining to expansion of the universities. The committees will also elect their chairmen.

At the end of his report to the shah, the minister of science and higher education said: This ministry has embarked on the preparation of a comprehensive educational program with the help of a group of scholars and professors. The program will be announced at the earliest opportunity.

During the audience, 12 new chancellors of universities, heads of centers of higher education, and 3 new undersecretaries in the Ministry of Science and Higher Education were introduced to the shah. They were: Dr 'Abdollah Sheybani, chancellor of Tehran University; Dr Qobad Fathi, chancellor of Azarabadagan University; Dr 'Abdol'ali Jahanshahi, chancellor of Iran National University; Dr Mohammad Amin, chancellor of Esfahan Aryamehr Industrial University; Dr Hoseyn 'Ali Anvari, chancellor of Tehran Aryamehr Industrial University; Dr Firuz Bahrampur, chancellor of the Iran Open University; Dr Bezhan 'Alami, chancellor of Revolution Corps University; Dr Sadeq Mobayyen, chancellor of Rezaiyeh University; Dr Amir Mansur Miri, chancellor of Amir Kabir Industrial and Tehran Polytechnic University; Dr Heybatollah Khakzar, chancellor of Iran Science and Industry University; Dr Mohammad 'Ali Ahmadi, chancellor of the Higher School of Commerce; Dr Mazaher Mosaffa, chancellor of Qom complex of higher education; Dr Moslem Bahadori, deputy minister of science and higher education and director of organization of educational scrutiny; Dr Davud Kazemi, deputy minister of science and higher education and secretary of the country's Medical Studies Council; and Dr Jamal Reza'i, executive undersecretary for executive and parliamentary affairs in the Ministry of Science and Higher Education.

BANGLADESH

PRESIDENT DEPARTS FOR OFFICIAL VISIT TO DPRK

BK080806Y Dacca Domestic Service in English 0605 GMT 8 Sep 78 BK

[Text] President Zia left Dacca for Pyongyang this morning on a 3-day official visit to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea at the invitation of President Kim Il-song. The president will be the chief guest at the 30th anniversary celebrations of the founding of the DPRK tomorrow.

Talking to newsmen at Dacca airport prior to his departure, the president said he will have talks with the DPRK leaders on bilateral matters and other issues. He said the talks will cover matters relating to promotion of bilateral trade between the two countries.

President Zia is accompanied by the foreign minister, Prof Shamsul Haq; the land administration and land reforms minister, Mr Ghulam Hafiz; the information and broadcasting minister, Mr Habibbullah Khan; the foreign secretary, Mr S.A.M.S. Kibria; and a judge of the Supreme Court, Mr Justice A.T. Masood. The 50-member presidential entourage also includes educationists, students, labor leaders, journalists and high-ranking officials.

At the Dacca airport the president was seen off by the vice president, Mr Justice Abdus Sattar; cabinet ministers; the services chiefs; members of the diplomatic corps and high civil and military officials.

INDIA

[illegible]PIES UPDATE ON FLOOD SITUATION

Delhi ISI in English 0847 GMT 7 Sep 78 BK

[illegible] level of the Yamuna in Delhi, which had gone up to an all-time high of [illegible]tres, receded on September 6 by 27 centimetres. On September 7 morning, the [illegible]urther receded and stood at 206.9 metres. The flood situation in West Delhi is also reported to be under control. The 3,050-metre long Dhansa Bandh is safe. But the Sahibi River Canal, which pours into the Dhansa Bandh, has spilled over its edges. This has badly affected Haryana side villages. An official spokesman has denied reports appearing in a section of the press that the Shahdara Bandh has been breached. He said the situation is well under control. Meanwhile, the first consignment of essential supplies was air dropped early this morning in villages of Alipore block. The villages are Mohammedpur, Ramzanpur, Hirankirkhush, Jhohbola, Akbarpur, Vajra and Palla. In addition, 4,000 packets of milk and 5,000 loaves of bread are being distributed on September 7 in the flood-affected area.

According to the lieutenant governor of Delhi, in all 100,000 food packets will be dropped in marooned villages of Alipore block on September 7. Another 50,000 packets will be distributed by volunteers to those who have taken shelter on rooftops. The Delhi administration has asked school teachers and principals to be present in schools where flood victims are camping. Delhi University and all its affiliated colleges will remain closed till September 9. Thirty-four relief camps have been set up by the Delhi Municipal Corporation. An inoculation drive is on and authorities expect that all flood-affected people would be inoculated by September 8.

In Uttar Pradesh, while the Ganges threatens to overflow, historical Allahabad bund built by Akbar Yamuna is already overflowing its banks and has started entering densely populated Kydganj and surrounding areas. The Ganges is flowing one and a half metres below the bund and is expected to rise by the same margin by September 7 evening. About 200 policemen are trying to avert the collapse of the bund. As a result of breaches and the rising water level in Yamuna at Allahabad, rail traffic between Mugalsarai and Allahabad has been suspended. Yamuna bridge at Allahabad has also been closed to rail traffic from September 7. The situation continues to be grave in Varanasi. More than 1,000 people have been evacuated from 25 marooned villages. Banda town was cut off from rest of the country following disruption of road and rail traffic. Banaras Hindu University has postponed its examination scheduled to be held from September 7, because of the flood situation.

The Pun Pun and Shan have started receding in Bihar. This has reduced the threat to Patna. An official spokesman has said that all embankments are completely safe and a strict vigil is being maintained. However, the Burhi Gandak is rising and, as a result, a number of places in Khagaria have been flooded. The floods have so far claimed 108 lives in the state. According to the Central Flood Forecasting Centre, the Ganges, which is already flowing 15 centimetres above the danger mark at Monghyr, may rise very fast and devastatingly on September 8. People living in low-lying areas of the town have been asked to shift to safer places immediately. The water level is likely to rise to the maximum height on the 10th of this month. The situation is likely to worsen further in Bhagalpur Kahalgaon and other adjacent areas.

The flood situation in West Bengal has become grim following the inundation of fresh areas in the worst hit Midnapore district. A number of places in Tamluk and Jhaargram subdivisions of the district are now threatened. With the Ganges rising alarmingly in Uttar Pradesh and Bihar, Malda, Murshidabad and Nadia districts are also facing the threat of fresh floods. Flood waters have already started entering Nabadwip town and other adjoining areas of Nadia district. In Howrah district, the Damodar is in spate and at least 300 villages are affected. All major rivers in Orissa are receding fast, but the Subarnarekha and Brahmani continued to flow above the danger mark. The rivers in Madhya Pradesh are also in spate following heavy rains during the last 3 days, inundating vast areas in Satna and Rewa regions. However, the flood waters have started receding from Rajnagar town near Kharjuraho.

UN Secretary General Doctor Waldheim has offered assistance for flood victims in India. In a message to the prime minister, he has expressed his deep sympathy for the affected people.

Situation Improves in Delhi

BK071615Y Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 7 Sep 78 BK

[Excerpts] The water levels of the Ganges and the Yamuna are continuing their rising trend all along their courses in Uttar Pradesh and Bihar. Both the rivers are already flowing over 3 meters above the danger level at some points near Allahabad. A number of residential colonies in the city have been inundated. The army has been alerted and the people in the low-lying areas have been warned to be ready for evacuation. Fifty-one army boats have been pressed into service. The Allahabad University and all colleges and schools in the city have been closed. University examinations have been postponed indefinitely.

At Agra the Yamuna continues to rise alarmingly, having already crossed the danger mark. The river has overflowed its banks in Belumganj and Balkeshwari. The situation is likely to be further aggravated tonight. People in the low-lying areas have been asked to shift to safer places by 2200 tonight.

The overall flood situation in the union territory of Delhi is improving. The level of the Yamuna has receded by 8 cm since yesterday. It stood at 206.7 meters when reports last came in. The lieutenant governor of Delhi, Mr Kohli, told a news conference today that the level is likely to come down to 206 meters in the next 24 hours. He said there have been no breaches in the left marginal bund on the eastern bank of the Yamuna. However, he said, the area is not completely free from the danger of floods. Army engineers along with more than 200 border security force personnel are busy in strengthening the bund.

PAKISTAN

ZIAUL HAQ TO BEGIN IRAN VISIT AFTER KABUL STOPOVER

BK0808l4Y Karachi Overseas Service in English 0030 GMT 8 Sep 78 BK

[Text] It has been officially stated in Islamabad that the chief of the army staff and chief martial law administrator [CMLA], Gen Mohammad Ziaul Haq, will pay a 2-day, friendly, informal visit to Iran from tomorrow. He will be accompanied by the minister of finance, planning and provincial coordination, Mr Ghulam Ishaque Khan; minister for shipping, ports and export promotion, Mr Mustafa Gokal; adviser to the CMLA in foreign affairs, Mr Agha Shahi; Foreign Secretary Mr Shahnawaz; and chief of the staff to the CMLA Maj Gen K.M. Arif. On his way to Tehran the CMLA will pay a 4-hour unofficial visit to Kabul, where he will hold talks with the chairman of the Revolutionary Council and the prime minister of Afghanistan, Mr Nur Mohammad Taraki.

SRI LANKA

JAYEWARDENE TAKES OFFICE UNDER NEW CONSTITUTION

BK071136Y Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 7 Sep 78 BK

[Text] A democratic socialist republic was proclaimed in Sri Lanka today under a new constitution basically patterned on a combination of the American and French presidential systems.

The president, Mr J.R. Jayewardene, who took the oath under the new constitution before parliament this morning, pledged that he would, to the best of his ability, uphold and defend it. He further declared: I will also perform my duties and functions as president not only in accordance with this constitution. Nay more, I will endeavor to expand and broaden the freedom it creates until my countrymen are assured that the ever-widening freedoms they enjoy, where the mind is free and can express itself without fear, can never again be taken away from them.

Mr Jayewardene, who utilized the occasion to outline some of the basic features of the new constitution, said: It has elevated the people to the highest possible place in the governing of this country by permitting them, by a referendum, to participate directly in deciding some of the laws that govern them. He declared that no dictator, motivated individual or group could govern for more than 6 years without the people's permission granted at a referendum.

The president went on: This constitution takes its place among those of the developed nations of the free world. Nay more, we set an example others may choose to follow. We have retained the fundamental democratic features of our political past.

At the same time we have introduced certain unique democratic innovations which insure the sovereignty of our people and the continuance of stable constitutional government.

Mr Jayewardene recalled that when they departed from a monarchial form of government which prevailed unbroken for 2,,16 years and adopted a republican form of government in 1972, they had enshrined for the first time in the constitution the sovereignty of the people. In this constitution, he said, sovereignty has been extended to include the process of government, fundamental rights and franchise. He emphasized that the constitution insured that every citizen, whether he belonged to a majority or minority, racial, religious or caste group, enjoyed equal and basic human rights and opportunities.

Earlier, when parliament, no longer the National State Assembly, met for the first time under the provision of the new constitution, the member for Kotte, Mr Ananda Tissa de Alvis, was unanimously elected as the new speaker. His name was proposed by Mr Lalith Athulathmudali and seconded by Mr S. D. Bandaranaike. Thereafter the speaker and all members present took their oaths of allegiance to the new constitution. The sitting was temporarily suspended to receive the president, whose arrival was marked by a 21-gun salute. The president also inspected a guard of honor presented by the three armed services.

New Cabinet

BK0714llY Hong Kong AFP in English 1347 GMT 7 Sep 78 BK

[Text] Colombo, Sep 7 (AFP)--President J. R. Jayewardene today announced a new cabinet of 27 ministers, retaining his old team and bringing in two new faces. The new cabinet was formed following the promulgation of a new constitution which came into force at midnight last night. While bringing in two new ministers, the president reshuffled the portfolios of five of the former ministers. Among the two new ministers is Ranil Wickremasinghe, 29, the former deputy minister of foreign affairs who was elevated to the post of youth affairs and employment. President Jayewardene himself had looked after these functions in the earlier cabinet.

The other new minister is Anandatissa de Alwis, 59, who will hold the portfolio of minister of state in charge of broadcasting information, aviation, and tourism. Mr Savumiamoorthy Thondaman, leader of the Ceylon Workers' Congress representing 1 million people of Indian origin who crossed over to the government yesterday, was appointed minister of rural industrial development. He had been sworn in yesterday as minister without a portfolio.

President Jayewardene, who is the head of the cabinet, retained the portfolios of defense and plan implementation. The prime minister, Ranasinhe Premadasa, will continue to be in charge of the local government, housing and construction portfolio as before. In the reshuffle of former portfolios, Mr E. L. Senanayake, who was minister of agriculture and lands, has been now made minister of agricultural development and research.

Lands goes to Mr. Gamini Dissanayake, who now functions as minister of lands and land development. A separate ministry has been created under Mr Gamini Dissanayake to implement the multi-purpose Mahaweli River development project. Mr D.B. Wijetunga, who was in charge of information and broadcasting in the former cabinet, has now been given the power and highways portfolio. Mr Lalith Athulathmudali, who was formerly minister of trade, has been given shipping as an additional function.

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